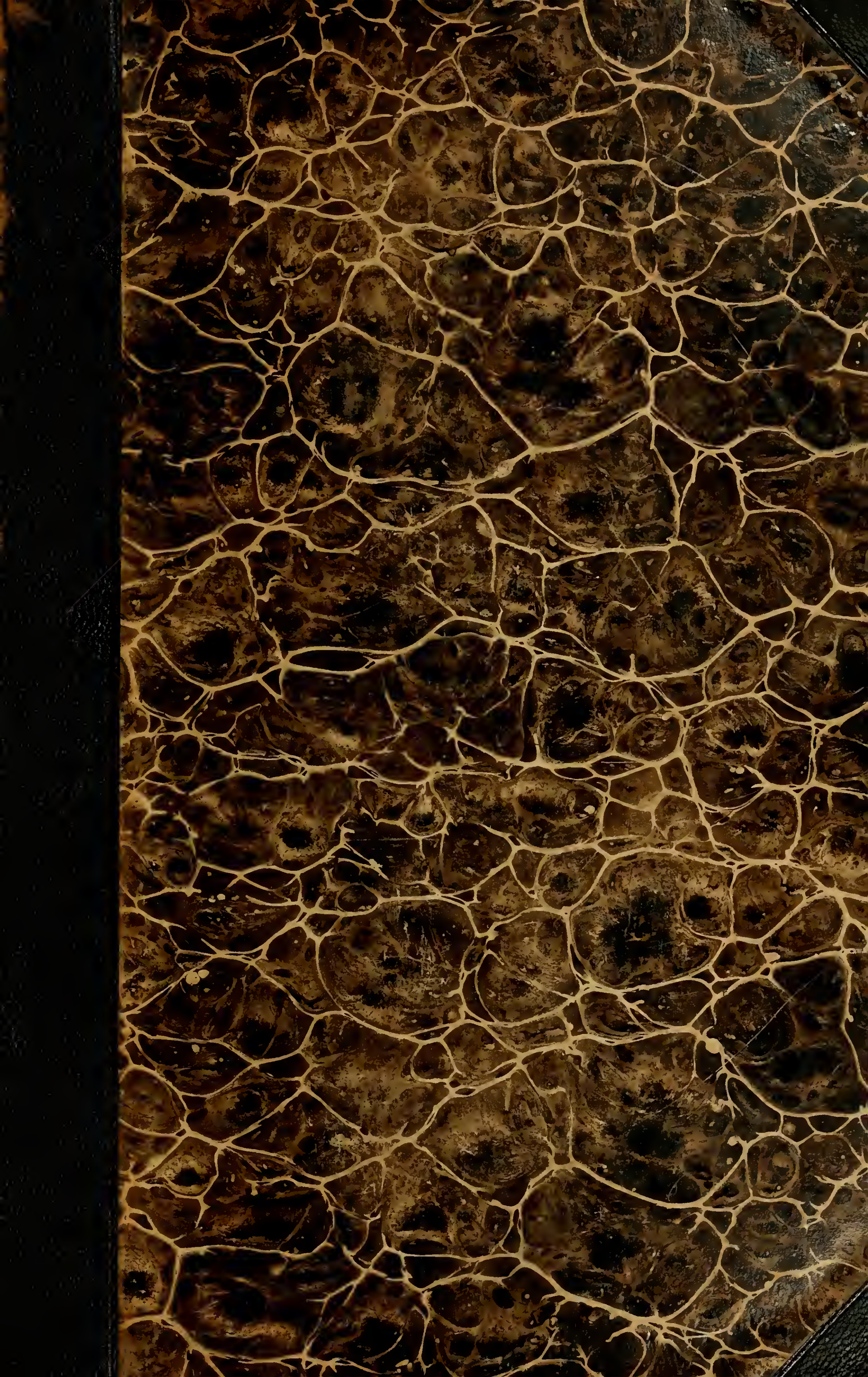
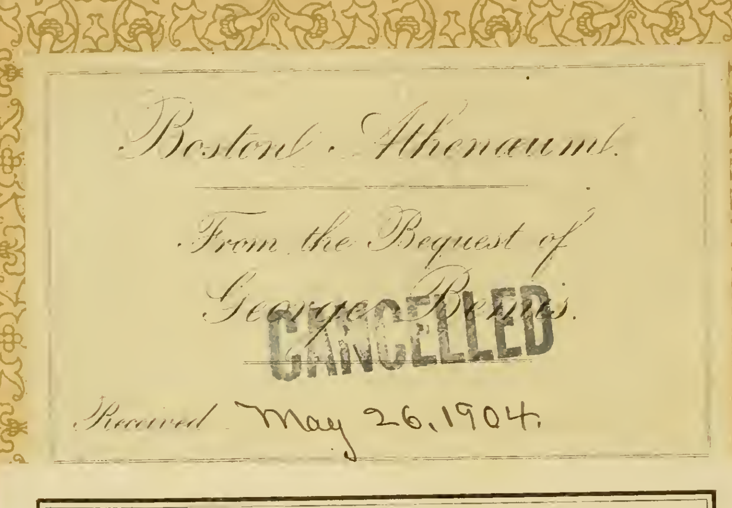
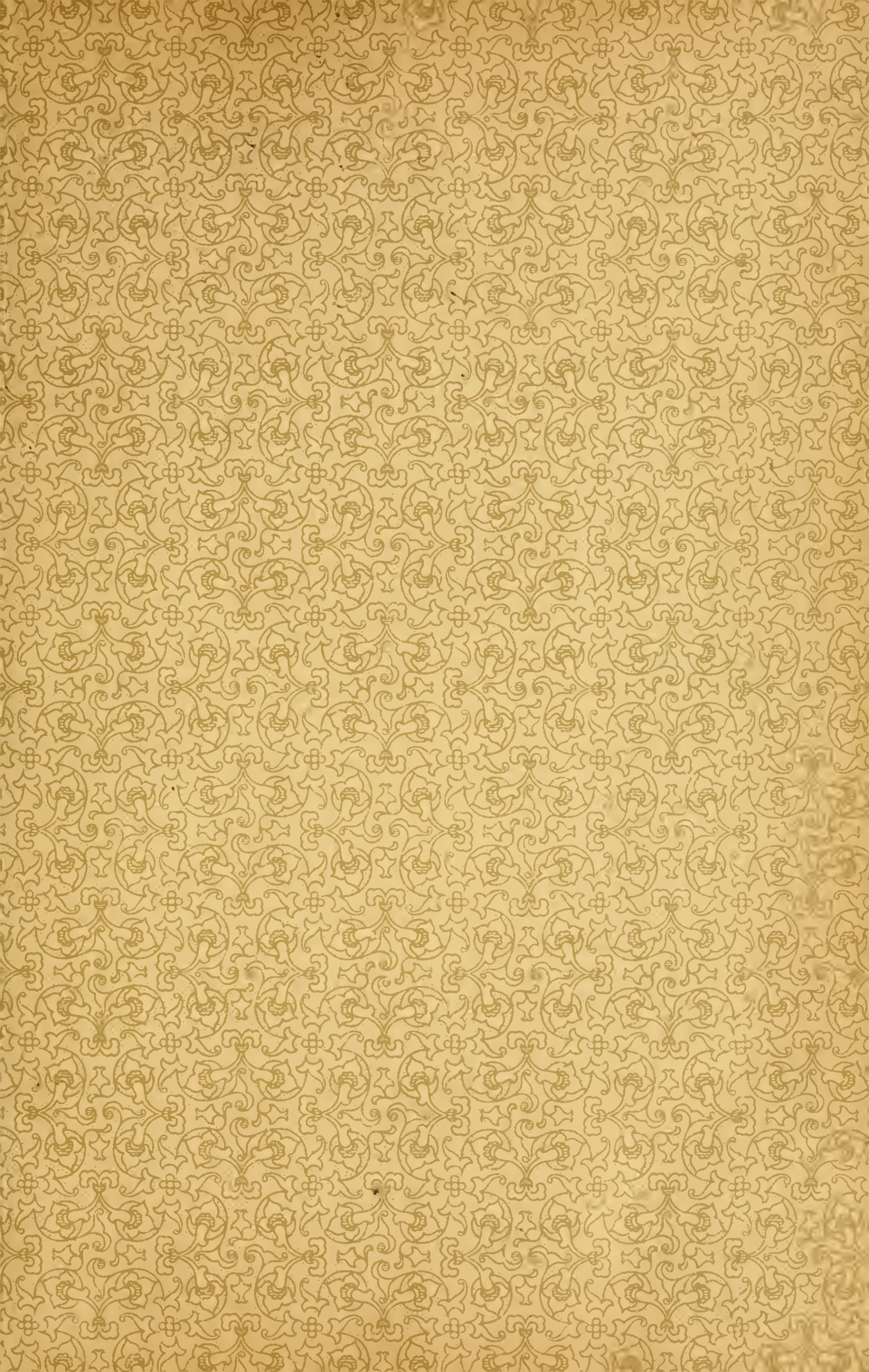



Boston Athenæum.
From the Bequest of
George Bemis.
CANCELLED
Received May 26, 1904.





Das Staatsarchiv.

Sammlung

der offiziellen Aktenstücke

zur

Geschichte der Gegenwart.

Begründet

von

Aegidi und **Klauhold.**

Herausgegeben

von

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Die mazedonische Frage. 1901—1903*).

Nr. 12764. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Konstantinopel. Griechenland lenkt die Aufmerksamkeit der Mächte auf die Gewalttaten der Bulgaren in Mazedonien.

Foreign Office, December 31, 1900.

Sir, || The Greek Chargé d'Affaires stated to Mr. Villiers on the 21st instant that his Government desired to call the very serious attention of the Great Powers to the state of affairs existing in Macedonia. || The Greeks in that province were suffering severely at the hands of the Bulgarians. Frequent outrages and crimes of violence occurred; recently, for instance, a murderous attack had been made on a Greek doctor. It was not only the duty, but the interest, of the Porte to repress these disorders and to establish proper government. || I have informed M. Métaxas that I will make his communication known to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Constantinople.

Lansdowne.

Nr. 12765. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. Maßregeln der bulgarischen Regierung gegen die Aufständischen.

Sophia, January 22, 1901. (January 28.**)

My Lord, || During an interview with General Petroff, I took the opportunity of inquiring what measures were being adopted with regard to the Macedonian Committee. || General Petroff informed me, in reply, that he had lately repeated his orders to the provincial authorities, who had received instructions to arrest and prosecute any individual against whom complaints of extortion had been brought. Several fresh cases had,

*) Blaubücher Cd. 1403. 1467. 1532. Red.

**) Die eingeklammerten Daten geben das Datum des Empfanges an. Red.

in fact, occurred, but the severity of the measures employed was producing its effect, and he inquired whether any case of blackmail had been brought to my notice during the last fortnight — a query which I answered in the negative || General Petroff went on to say that, if necessary, he would find means of suppressing the Committees entirely, and in any case he was determined to render them innocuous. He had already arrested and sent into the interior of the country a number of undesirable Macedonians who had assembled in the capital, and he would take measures to have the remainder dispersed. At the same time the General informed me that he could exercise no control over the Central Revolutionary Committee in Macedonia itself, as it was an organization entirely independent of the Committee in Bulgaria, and was, moreover, well supplied with arms. The Turkish Government was acquainted with its proceedings. || I told General Petroff that I was glad to hear of his determination not to tolerate the excesses of the Macedonian Committee, and that a firm attitude on his part could not fail to have a salutary effect on the Revolutionary Society in Macedonia. James McGregor.

Nr. 12766. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an die Geschäftsträger in Konstantinopel und Sofia. — Schritte der französischen Regierung in Sofia.

Foreign Office, January 29, 1901.

Sir, || The French Ambassador stated on the 21st instant that the Greek Government had called the attention of the French Government to the danger arising out of the proceedings of the Bulgarian Committee in Macedonia, and to the importance of measures being taken to repress the outrages which were being committed by agents of the Committee. || M. Cambon said that instructions had been sent to the French Ambassador at Constantinople to call the attention of the Porte to the matter, and to urge that steps should be taken to secure a better state of public order, and that the French Representative at Sophia had also been instructed to represent to the Bulgarian Government the expediency of using any influence they possessed to discourage and check these lawless acts. || His Excellency asked if His Majesty's Government had received a similar communication from the Greek Government, and whether they had taken any action in regard to it. || You will find a record of the communication in my despatch to Sir E. Egerton of the 31st ultimo. || It would be advisable that you should take an opportunity of speaking to the Minister for Foreign Affairs in the same sense as your French colleague. Lansdowne.

Nr. 12767. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Bericht des Konsuls in Usküb über die Unruhen in Ischtib.

Uskub, January 20, 1901.

(Extract.) || I have the honour to submit the following report with reference to the recent disturbance at Ishtib. || On the 1st of this month a telegram was received by the Governor-General from Ishtib stating that in an attempt to arrest certain Bulgarians believed to be agents of the Macedonian Committee, bombs were thrown and shots fired from a house killing a Captain and two gendarmes and wounding several others. The Vali thereupon hastened to the telegraph office, where he remained the greater part of the night, telegraphing three times to the Palace for permission to proceed in person to Ishtib. || In reply to his third telegram the Vali received word that an Imperial Iradé had been issued instructing him to at once repair to Ishtib, and do what was necessary there. || The following morning the Governor-General, accompanied by the Colonel of Gendarmerie, the Chief of Police, a Juge d'Instruction, and some thirty gendarmes, left by train for Ishtib, leaving the Commandant, Moustafa Nouri Pasha, to replace him during his absence. || Upon arriving at Ishtib the Vali drew a cordon of troops and zaptiehs around the Bulgarian quarter, and instituted a house-to-house search for arms and incriminating papers. || In one house where there were known to be a large quantity of cartridges and other explosives, four resolute Bulgarians had barricaded themselves, refusing to surrender at the authorities' summons. The house was consequently blockaded by a cordon of gendarmes and set on fire. || Two of the Bulgarians perished in the flames, the other two escaped by breaking through the cordon, and one gendarme was killed. The cartridges and other weapons were destroyed by the fire. || On the 3rd January a battalion of troops was ordered from Sienitza to Ishtib, although there was already a large force of cavalry and artillery in the latter town. The search for revolutionaries, arms, and papers continued, resulting finally in the arrest of some fifteen Bulgarians (since sent to Uskub), the discovery of five or six rifles and revolvers and a few papers of little relative value. The report set on foot by officials at Uskub that large supplies of arms of the latest system had been unearthed at Ishtib proved entirely unfounded. || A brush between zaptiehs and Bulgarians was said to have taken place at Malesh, but no arms or papers, I understand, were discovered there. Shortly before the disturbance at Ishtib, some twenty Bulgarians had been arrested at Kumanova under charge of having received a consignment of arms from the former town.

Later the number of arrests was increased to about fifty, but, so far, no arms would appear to have been discovered in Bulgarian possession at Kumanova. || The Vali returned with his suite to Uskub on the 12th instant.

Nr. 12768. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Minister des Ausw. — Unterredung mit dem türkischen Minister des Ausw. über Mazedonien.

Constantinople, February 19, 1901. (February 25.)

My Lord, || In accordance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's despatch of the 29th ultimo, I took an opportunity yesterday of an interview with the Minister for Foreign Affairs to draw his Excellency's attention to the reports which were received from various quarters respecting the outrages committed and general condition of insecurity in Macedonia. || Tewfik Pasha replied that this state of affairs was mainly caused by armed bands of Bulgarians crossing the frontier, and by the activity of the Bulgarian Committees throughout the provinces. He had recently caused representations to be made at Sophia, but he had received an evasive reply. The Ottoman Government were most anxious to maintain order and to prevent excesses of any sort, and if disturbances occurred, he quite agreed that the mode of suppression should be both humane and legal. || I had previously arranged with M. Bapst, the French Chargé d'Affaires, to speak to Tewfik Pasha in much the same sense as he had already done, and I understand that my German and Austrian colleagues have used similar language, and I believe also the Italian Ambassador. || I hear that the Ottoman Government is rather uneasy lest the insurrectionary Bulgarian Committees succeed in provoking serious disturbances; but I do not think that there is more ground for this anxiety than is usual at this time of year. N. R. O'conor.

Nr. 12769. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Botschafter in Petersburg an den Minister des Ausw. Schritte Rußlands in Sofia gegen die mazedonischen Komitees.

St. Petersburgh, February 21, 1901. (February 25.)

(Extract.) || Talking of the state of affairs in the Balkan States yesterday, Count Lamsdorff said that the press had somewhat exaggerated the real facts as to the action taken by Russia, with a view to neutralizing

the dangerous activity of the Macedonian Committee. || He had, he said, never ceased to urge on the Bulgarian Government advice in this sense, and his representations had, he was happy to believe, greatly strengthened the hands of the Prince of Bulgaria, whose position was a difficult one, but who seemed to have now realized the true character of the Secret Committee, which had lost all claim to be regarded as patriotic, and had degenerated into anarchical propaganda, whose chief aim was to extort money by intimidation. || As regarded the press report of strong representations made by the Russian Government on the same subject at Constantinople, his Excellency knew nothing, but he had certainly discussed the whole question of the Macedonian agitation very thoroughly with M. Zinovieff during the last visit of the latter to Russia, and M. Zinovieff was thoroughly conversant with his views on the subject. || Count Lamsdorff did not seem apprehensive of any serious trouble in that part of the world at present.

Nr. 12770. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Wien an den Minister des Ausw. Graf Goluchowski fürchtet keine ernstlichen Unruhen.

Vienna, February 23, 1901. (February 25.)

(Extract.) || From a short conversation I had with Count Goluchowski on the 19th instant, I gathered that his Excellency considers there is very little real danger of serious trouble breaking out in the Balkans at present. || His Excellency evidently believed that the warnings given both at Sophia and Constantinople would be listened to, and he considered that the action apparently lately taken by Russia would check any further developments, at all events for the present, of the Macedonian Committee intrigues.

Nr. 12771. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. Unterredung mit dem bulgarischen Minister des Ausw. über die mazedonischen Komitees. — Note Bulgariens an die Türkei über Mazedonien. (18. Februar.)

Sophia, February 27, 1901. (March 4.)

(Extract.) || With reference to my despatch of the 21st instant, I have the honour to report that on the 25th instant I saw General Petroff,

the Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, and, as instructed by your Lordship's despatch of the 29th January, represented to him the danger arising out of the proceedings of the Bulgarian Committee in Macedonia, and the expediency of using any influence possessed by the Bulgarian Government to discourage and check the lawless acts committed by the agents of that Committee. I mentioned particularly the murder of the Greek, Dr. Sakellarios, at Salonica, and the more recent murderous assault upon a Servian priest at Uskub. || General Petroff did not, as I expected, plead inability to interfere in matters which occurred beyond the limits of the Principality. On the contrary, he said he was fully aware of the danger of the proceedings of the Committee, and the harm they did to the Macedonian cause, and said he had done all he could to get their activity restrained within bounds. He could now do no more, for a provisional Government such as his, within a few days of the end of its existence, could not speak with any authority. The Uskub crime, he said, was committed by an ordinary drunken brawler, and not by an agent of the Committee. || Since I saw General Petroff, I have received from him communication of a copy of a *note verbale* which he has addressed to the Ottoman Representative here in reply to the inquiries of the Turkish Government as to what measures the Bulgarian Government propose to take with a view to put an end to the agitations directed against the good order and security of the neighbouring provinces of the Empire. I have the honour to inclose it herewith. It protests against the attempt to saddle the Bulgarian Government with the responsibility for occurrences which have taken place, or may be about to take place, in Macedonia; it asserts that of all the accusations brought by the Porte against the Macedonian Committee in Bulgaria the only one which is true is that its agents have levied blackmail upon natives and foreigners in the Principality, and declares that the most stringent orders have been given for the arrest and trial of such persons; it professes the readiness of the Bulgarian Government to punish all public attacks, whether spoken or printed, against the person of the Sultan, but its inability to suppress those which are directed against the maladministration of the Turkish authorities; it refers to the dissolution of the Rifle Clubs; it asserts the efficacy of the measures taken by the Bulgarian Government to assure the security of the frontier; and it concludes by repudiating all responsibility for the disturbance of order in Macedonia, and by throwing it upon the Turco-Albanian Committees, whose impunity in crime is the source of all the evil. || In the course of my conversation with General Petroff, I asked him what was the present

position of affairs as regards Sarafoff and the other members of the Macedonian Committee. He replied that a Congress would shortly be held at Sophia, at which the present members of the Committee would resign, and be replaced by others of more moderate views. Upon my suggesting the possibility of the Congress re-electing the same men, he rejoined that the Government would take good care that that did not happen.

Anlage.

Note Verbale.

Depuis quelque temps, par suite de certains rapports qui lui sont parvenus, la Sublime Porte se montre très préoccupée de l'activité des Comités Macédoniens en Bulgarie et demande quelles mesures compte prendre le Gouvernement Princier pour mettre un terme à des agitations politiques dirigées contre l'ordre et la sécurité des provinces de l'Empire limitrophes de la Principauté. || D'après ces rapports, quelques agents des Comités emploient la menace ou la violence pour faire des collectes d'argent au profit d'une cause révolutionnaire; d'autres publient des journaux, convoquent des meetings où ils excitent l'opinion publique contre les autorités Turques en leur imputant toutes sortes de crimes et d'atrocités; d'aucuns organisent des bandes armées pour commettre des actes de brigandage en Turquie; d'autres encore, avec l'aide d'officiers Bulgares, commandent des exercices militaires afin d'apprendre le maniement des armes à ceux qui devront, à un moment donné, former des bandes révolutionnaires destinées à faire irruption dans les vilayets voisins; et par tous ces moyens, les Comités ne poursuivent qu'un but, celui de provoquer une insurrection générale en Macédoine; et en présence de ces menées subversives, les autorités Bulgares restent inactives ou impuissantes. || Ce n'est pas pour la première fois que le Gouvernement Princier se trouve obligé de relever les exagérations voulues des rapports qui parviennent à la Sublime Porte et de répondre à des accusations dénuées de fondement. Ce ne sera pas non plus la dernière fois qu'il aura lieu de constater cette habitude invétérée que l'on a d'exagérer tout ce qui se passe en Bulgarie, ainsi que cette tendance systématique à faire remonter au Gouvernement Bulgare la responsabilité des événements qui se sont produits en Macédoine et même de ceux qui pourraient y survenir. || De tous les faits signalés à la Sublime Porte, un seul est absolument exact: quelques agents des Comités Macédoniens se sont livrés à des manœuvres de chantage pour extorquer de l'argent à des ressortissants Bulgares et

étrangers. Or, le Ministère Princier de l'Intérieur a donné aux Préfectures les ordres les plus catégoriques à l'égard de ces individus dont plusieurs sont arrêtés et seront déférés à la justice pour être jugés conformément aux Articles 330 et 333 du Code Pénal. ‖ En ce qui concerne les délits commis par la voie de la presse ou par la parole en des réunions publiques, la Sublime Porte voudra bien reconnaître que le Gouvernement Bulgare n'a jamais refusé, sur sa demande, de poursuivre d'office ceux qui étaient incriminés pour offenses et outrages envers Sa Majesté le Sultan. Mais, s'il s'agit des critiques et des attaques parfois violentes publiées dans les journaux ou prononcées dans des meetings contre certains agents de l'Administration Turque, le Gouvernement Princier n'y peut rien; il appartient à la Sublime Porte de démontrer que les abus de pouvoir imputés à ses autorités n'existent pas en Turquie. ‖ Quant aux bandes armées qui menaceraient de traverser la frontière pour se livrer au brigandage dans les vilayets voisins, le Gouvernement Princier s'estime heureux de pouvoir affirmer hautement que ce n'est pas sur son territoire que de pareilles bandes tenteraient de s'organiser. Et sans insister davantage sur ce point, il se borne à confirmer la note du 24 Janvier dernier, par laquelle le Ministère des Affaires Étrangères a donné au Commissariat Ottoman l'assurance que les autorités locales ont l'ordre d'exercer, le long de la ligne de démarcation, la surveillance la plus rigoureuse et d'en éloigner tout individu qui leur paraîtrait suspect. ‖ Depuis une dizaine d'années il existe en Bulgarie des Sociétés de Chasse et de Tir dont font également partie des officiers de l'armée active et qui fonctionnent en base de Statuts approuvés par le Ministère de l'Intérieur; mais dans ces derniers temps, il s'en est constitué de nouvelles qui, avant d'avoir obtenu la sanction administrative, ont inauguré des exercices de tir auxquels elles voulurent astreindre même les sujets Ottomans. Et c'est dans ce fait que l'on a cru voir des préparatifs d'enrôlement d'hommes exercés en vue d'une action révolutionnaire entreprise contre l'Empire! La Sublime Porte avouera qu'il faut beaucoup d'imagination pour dénaturer ainsi les faits les plus simples. Quoi qu'il en soit, à cette occasion encore, le Gouvernement Bulgare a pris les mesures nécessaires pour dissoudre les Sociétés qui poseraient des actes contraires à l'ordre public et de nature à affecter les bonnes relations existantes entre la Principauté et les pays voisins. ‖ Mais il a été dit que le Gouvernement Princier n'est pas seulement tenu de rétablir, en leur réalité vraie, les moindres faits ou incidents qui se passent en Bulgarie. Il lui faut en outre donner des explications et dégager sa responsabilité en prévision d'événements qui pourraient surgir en Turquie. ‖ Il est à remarquer que, depuis quelque

temps, le brigandage et les assassinats, les désordres et même les plus petits incidents qui ont lieu dans les vilayets voisins sont toujours attribués à des émissaires de Comités Révolutionnaires ou à des bandes armées venues de Bulgarie. Cependant, les autorités Impériales ne peuvent jamais fournir des preuves ni des indications précises à l'appui de leurs assertions. Il suffira de rappeler la récente affaire de Ichtib; la Sublime Porte n'a pu démontrer que les perturbateurs avaient été envoyés par le Comité Macédonien de Sophia. Elle n'a pas expliqué non plus pourquoi et comment ces troubles se sont produits, ni à qui en doivent réellement incomber les responsabilités. Mais la lumière est faite aujourd'hui; tout le monde sait que, pour opérer l'arrestation d'un individu suspect, qui s'était caché dans une maison de Novo-Selo, faubourg de Ichtib, la gendarmerie et les troupes Turques envoyées sur les lieux ont brûlé plusieurs maisons, emprisonné et maltraité un grand nombre de personnes innocentes et abandonné toute une population paisible à la merci d'une horde d'Albanais Musulmans qui s'est livrée au pillage et aux pires violences. Voilà la vérité sur les „troubles“ de Ichtib. Et pour donner le change à l'opinion publique en regard de pareilles répressions de troubles imaginaires, les autorités Impériales croient s'être justifiées en dénonçant les Comités Macédoniens. || La Sublime Porte n'ignore pas que, loin de vouloir défendre les Comités envers et contre tous, le Gouvernement Princier est fermement résolu de sévir contre eux au cas où ils se rendraient coupables d'actes attentatoires à l'ordre public en Bulgarie et en Turquie. Elle peut de son côté prendre à leur égard telles mesures qui lui paraîtront opportunes et justes. || Mais le Gouvernement Bulgare n'admet pas qu'on le rende par avance responsable de tout ce qui pourrait survenir dans les vilayets voisins; il s'élève énergiquement contre ce procès de tendance qui lui est fait depuis quelque temps devant l'opinion publique, à cause des Comités Macédoniens; et il dénonce à son tour les Comités Turco-Albanais qui, par les attentats et les crimes qu'ils commettent impunément dans ces provinces, répandent la terreur et l'exaspération parmi la population Bulgare. C'est dans cette funeste organisation des Comités Turco-Albanais que réside tout le mal; et le jour où la Sublime Porte prendra des mesures rigoureuses pour l'extirper et punir les coupables et qu'elle donnera la paix, la tranquillité, et le bien-être à ses populations, elle n'aura plus lieu de se préoccuper des Comités Macédoniens.

Le 5 (18) Février, 1901.

Nr. 12772. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. — Antwort der Pforte auf die bulgarische Note.

Sophia, March 6, 1901. (March 12.)

(Extract.) || Nedjib Effendi Melhame, the Ottoman Commissioner at Sophia, has shown me the *note verbale* which he has addressed to the Bulgarian Government in reply to theirs, of which a copy was inclosed in my despatch of the 27th ultimo. I have the honour to transmit a copy of it herewith. || Nedjib Effendi tells me that he has instructions formally and peremptorily to demand of the Bulgarian Government the dissolution of the Macedonian Committee; that he did not act on them in the time of General Petroff, being reluctant to flog a willing horse; but that now a Government has come into power which is credited with the intention of not interfering with the Committee, he shall execute them at once. I told him that I proposed to repeat to the new Minister, on the first opportunity, the representations in regard to the Macedonian Committee which I had made to General Petroff by your Lordship's instructions. || I told Nedjib Effendi that I had heard that bands were openly being recruited in the neighbourhood of Kustendil for the invasion of the frontier; he said he had the same information, and had sent to verify it. Such occurrences, however, gave him no apprehension, the Turkish forces in Macedonia being quite strong enough to deal with any disturbances either from within or from without. || The day before yesterday, the anniversary of the Treaty of San Stefano, a demonstration was made at Sophia by the Macedonian Society, a procession being organized to the monuments of the Emperor Alexander II and of the Martyr Levsky. At the latter place a speech was made by Boris Sarafoff, who eulogized those who had given their lives for the country, and called upon all present to imitate their example and prepare for the approaching struggle.

Anlage.

Note Verbale.

Le Commissariat Impérial a relevé avec satisfaction de la note No. 28 du Ministère Princier des Affaires Étrangères les assurances que la Principauté a bien voulu lui renouveler au sujet de l'agitation Macédonienne, ainsi que ses heureuses dispositions tendant à réprimer tous actes susceptibles d'affecter les bonnes relations de l'Empire avec la Principauté. || Toutefois ce Commissariat Impérial ne peut s'empêcher d'exprimer ses regrets de voir encore une fois le Ministère Princier revenir sur une thèse

déjà détruite par ses notes précédentes et d'après laquelle les autorités Impériales prêteraient une créance aveugle aux rapports qui lui sont adressés sur les actes des révolutionnaires Macédoniens. Tous les faits signalés par ce Commissariat Impérial représentent en réalité des crimes de droit commun, presque toujours impunément commis sous le couvert de l'assistance officielle prêtée au Comité et dont le caractère patent est démontré à l'évidence dans les notes qui les signalaient. Au surplus, si les faits visés n'ont jamais été réprimés malgré les promesses réitérées des Ministères précédents, ils n'ont jamais été non plus de la part de ces Ministères l'objet d'aucune assertion de nature à les controuver ou à en atténuer la gravité. || Il est également impossible à ce Commissariat Impérial de laisser passer sans observation l'exposé que le Ministère Princier s'est plu à faire d'une question qu'il présente sous le nom de l'incident d'Ichtib, pour essayer de démontrer que les actes repréhensibles qui se commettent dans les vilayets voisins sont attribués à tort à des émissaires du Comité Révolutionnaire ou à des bandes armées venues de Bulgarie. Quoiqu'il s'agisse en l'espèce d'une affaire d'ordre intérieur spécial du Gouvernement Impérial et qu'à ce titre elle ne doit donner lieu ici à aucune explication, le Commissariat Impérial croit pouvoir affirmer cependant que si le Ministère Princier était exactement renseigné sur les circonstances de l'incident, il n'hésiterait pas à reconnaître que l'attitude du Gouvernement Impérial a été à cette occurrence tout à l'avantage des intérêts de la Principauté. || En résumé, ce Commissariat Impérial n'a en vue que la juste répression des menées subversives du Comité Révolutionnaire et des délits de droit commun dont ils se rendent coupables; aussi veut-il espérer que les mesures arrêtées à cet effet par le Ministère Princier seront plus efficaces que celles promises par les Ministères qui l'ont précédé, et mettront enfin terme à toute agitation regrettable. || En lui donnant cette satisfaction, le Ministère Princier secondera les efforts de ce Commissariat Impérial en vue de maintenir la bonne harmonie de ses relations avec la Principauté, dont les intérêts d'ailleurs lui sont à cœur.

Le 22 Février, 1901.

Nr. 12773. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. — Die türkische Regierung hat die Auflösung der mazedonischen Komitees gefordert.

Sophia, March 26, 1901. (April 1.)

My Lord, || With reference to my despatch of the 6th instant, I have the honour to report that Nedjib Effendi Melhame, the Ottoman Com-

missioner, some days ago addressed to the Bulgarian Government a formal note demanding the dissolution of the Macedonian Committee in the interest of the maintenance of good relations between the Principality and the Porte, and is awaiting a reply. || I did not attend the last reception of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, but his Excellency told one of my colleagues, and begged him to repeat that the Government were determined to strike at the root of the evil produced by the Macedonian Committee, and were only waiting to act until they had collected the necessary materials. || I am told by a Deputy that, in closing the debate on the Address in the Sobranié yesterday, the same Minister, M. Daneff, said that the Government were determined to enforce the law, and to fulfil their obligations towards other countries, for until they had put themselves in the right in that respect, they were not entitled to ask other countries to fulfil their engagements (alluding to the eventual execution of Article XXIII of the Treaty of Berlin). He added that so long as the Macedonian Committee conformed to the law, it could continue to exist, but that any breach of the law would be rigorously punished. The question of the complicity of the Committee in the Bucharest murders was now in the hands of the Courts of Justice, and would, he hoped, soon be finally settled. || The Macedonian Congress was summoned to meet at Sophia on the 31st March, but the Government are said to be throwing obstacles in the way of its assembling by refusing leave of absence to schoolmasters and other public servants who have been chosen as provincial delegates to it; and an evening paper announced yesterday that the meeting of the Congress had been postponed until July. The principal business of the Congress would have been to consider the resignation of Sarafoff and other members of the Committee, and to re-elect them or appoint others in their place. | Mr. Vice-Consul Dalziel reports from Rustchuk that the drilling of Macedonians has ceased, and that the authorities profess to be calling in the rifles, but say it is difficult to do so, as they are mostly private property. || On the other hand, His Majesty's Vice-Consul at Philippopoli writes that „the Macedonians are carrying on their drill as usual, sometimes with rifles, and always under the direction of garrison officers". || M. Daneff told me the last time I saw him that several known leaders of bands of incursionists had been removed from the neighbourhood of the frontier and „internés" elsewhere.

F. Elliot.

Nr. 12774. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. Verhaftung des Präsidiums der mazedonischen Komitees.

Sophia, April 10, 1901. (April 15.)

My Lord, || During the night of the 5th instant Sarafoff, the President of the Macedonian Committee; Davidoff, the Vice-President; Kovacheff, the Secretary, and several other members of the Committee, were arrested, and their lodgings, as well as the offices of the Committee, were taken possession of by the authorities. || Sarafoff and Davidoff were accosted by a Commissaire de Police as they came out of a Café Chantant together, and were requested to accompany him to the Préfecture de Police. || They asked to see the warrant, and as it was not forthcoming they drew revolvers and threatened resistance. They were, therefore, accompanied to Sarafoff's lodging, and the warrant was sent for; upon the production of it they surrendered quietly. || In the course of the following day further arrests were made, and I understand there are now in custody thirteen of the persons condemned by default by the Roumanian Court, and seven of their associates. || In informing me the next morning of what had been done, M. Daneff, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, said the arrest had been made upon the warrant of the Juge d'Instruction, intrusted with the examination of the Roumanian „dossier", and he hoped they would be recognized as a proof of the determination of the Bulgarian Government to insist on the execution of the law. || On the day on which the arrests were made, the „Reformi", the organ of the Macedonian Committee, published an article in which the Prince is accused of using the Macedonian question solely with a view to his own advantage. It declares that in 1895 he encouraged the Committee to organize the incursions which were made into Macedonia, and which resulted in the loss of valuable lives without any profit to the Macedonian cause, but which contributed to bring about the recognition of the Prince in the following year, while now he is threatening the Macedonian Society with suppression at the bidding of the foreign Powers. || It protests against the arbitrary „internement" of Macedonians (which has, in fact, been carried out in several places), and calls upon those who are thus, as it says, illegally treated, in their turn to disregard the law. The article has been thought to be the immediate cause of the arrests being made, but they must, as a matter of fact, have been decided on before it appeared. || Several of the newspapers, and especially the „Narodni Prava", M. Rodoslavoff's organ, protest vehemently against the action of the Government, and there is some ferment among the Macedonians, whom the Government party, while in

opposition, had led to expect different treatment at their hands. || On the 7th instant placards summoning a public meeting to protest against the arrest of the Committee were posted in Sophia, and were torn down by the police. In one instance a gendarme endeavouring to prevent the posting of a placard, was threatened with revolvers. He summoned assistance, and some persons were arrested, but the mob became so menacing that they were released by the Prefect of Police, who, however, has since been dismissed. The meeting was held in an inclosed place, and passed off without special incident. F. Elliot.

Nr. 12775. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. — Provozierende Haltung des mazedonischen Kongresses.

Sophia, April 24, 1901. (April 29.)

My Lord, || The proceedings of the Macedonian Congress terminated on the 21st instant with the election of a provisional Committee to carry on the Administration until the ordinary meeting of the Congress in July. The persons elected were: Professor Mikhailovsky, President; Dr. Vladoff, Vice-President; Messrs. Kepoff, Secretary; Dimitroff, Minkoff, and Petroff, Treasurer; the two latter being members of the old Committee who have not been arrested. They are all said to belong to the party of action, excepting the President, who is reported to hold moderate views. He has, however, in conjunction with General Tsoncheff, another candidate for the presidency, lately published a pamphlet in which he admits that dislike of Bulgaria is now general in Europe, and ascribes it to the mistaken foreign policy pursued by successive Bulgarian Governments, the responsibility for which he ascribes entirely to the Prince. The unfriendly attitude of Russia, he says, is due to their dislike of the Prince; as they cannot get rid of him themselves, „they beat the horse to make him unseat the rider“. || The Macedonian Congress deputed Professor Mikhailovsky, General Tsoncheff and another to visit Sarafoff and his companions in prison and thank them for their services. The further proceedings of the Congress have not been divulged. || Professor Mikhailovsky is one of several teachers in public schools who attended the Congress notwithstanding the formal prohibition of their doing so on pain of dismissal. The Minister for Foreign Affairs has assured one of my colleagues that the penalty will be enforced. || The Minister of the Interior has issued a Circular confirming an Order of his predecessor forbidding the collection

of subscriptions in favour of the Macedonian Societies, except among members of those Societies, and giving instructions that this Order is to be strictly observed. F. Elliot.

Nr. 12776. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Derselbe an Denselben. Ansichten der bulgarischen Regierung über den Kongreß.

Sophia, May 8, 1901. (May 13.)

My Lord, || The last time I saw M. Daneff, the Bulgarian Minister for Foreign Affairs, I asked him what he thought of the composition of the new Macedonian Committee. He replied that Mikhailovsky, the President, was a poet and an idealist, liable to vary his opinions from day to day according to the nature of his latest impressions, but quite incapable of sanctioning the criminal methods adopted by Sarafoff. The other members of the Committee were young men, but most of them of fairly moderate views. The important result of the Congress, he said, was the condemnation expressed of the methods of Sarafoff by a large majority. || I asked his Excellency how he reconciled this alleged condemnation of the methods of Sarafoff with the dispatch of a deputation to express to him the sympathy and thanks of the Congress. He replied that it was one of those illogical proceedings which often took place in this country, and that he supposed the idea was to express appreciation of the good intentions of Sarafoff, but not of the manner in which he had attempted to carry them out. || The Ottoman Commissioner does not think that the policy of the Macedonian Committee will be much affected by the change in the composition of it. He does not believe in the efficacity or sincerity of any of the measures taken by the Government except as regards the collection of funds, which he admits has been stopped, to such good purpose that he understands the chest of the Committee now only contains 30 000 fr. F. Elliot.

Nr. 12777. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Gesandte in Belgrad an den Minister des Ausw. Unruhen an der Serbisch-Türkischen Grenze. Die Pforte kann die Christen nicht schützen.

Belgrade, May 10, 1901. (May 15.)

My Lord, || With reference to my despatch of the 7th instant, I have the honour to report that the disturbances in Old Servia, alluded to therein as having obliged forty families of Servian origin to take refuge in

Servian territory, are of greater importance than at first appeared. As explained to me yesterday by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, it is not a frontier dispute of the ordinary type arising out of an attempt at smuggling, nor has it occurred in a district subject to the influence of the Macedonian Committee, in which severe measures are doubtless justifiable, but it is rather an outbreak of turbulence among the Albanians in the Sandjak of Novi Bazar, which the Porte is apparently quite unable to repress. || The murder, under somewhat aggravated circumstances, of two unoffending Notables near Sienitza, and the fact that the Christian population is not being allowed to possess fire-arms or defend itself, has, of course, given rise to energetic protests on the part of the Servian Government, who have strongly urged the Porte in its own interests to maintain order in the district. || It appears, however, that although professing the best intentions, the Porte is unable to do so; and that the manifestation of her authority against the band of brigands near Ipek, reported in my despatch of the 14th March, has not been followed with the results which were hoped for. || The state of affairs in Albania is too notorious to require further description now, and when it is remembered that it is a district in which the Government has been unable to put in force its own Regulations for a tobacco monopoly, it is not surprising that it is unable to carry out its duty of protecting the Christian population. || Sienitza, I am informed, is a place where there is an Austrian garrison which gives rise to the danger of a possible intervention.

G. F. Bonham.

Nr. 12778. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. Bericht über eine Programmrede des Vorsitzenden des mazedonischen Kongresses.

Sophia, June 26, 1901. (July 1.)

My Lord, || Professor Mikhailovsky, the new President of the Macedonian Committee, on the 22nd instant gave a lecture, of which the following is a summary. || The Macedonian movement must place restraint upon itself and avoid trials of strength which might easily lead to a catastrophe. The endeavour of the Macedonians must be to show the whole world that they have no Pan-Bulgarian aspirations, and that they are striving simply and solely for the autonomy stipulated by Article XXIII of the Treaty of Berlin. The Bulgarian Macedonians must work in complete accord with the other races in the province, and convince them that the future autonomy of Macedonia will rest upon the principle of

complete equality of all its inhabitants. This is the only way to gain the sympathy of European public opinion for the Macedonian movement and to insure the triumph of the sacred cause. „No aspirations towards union with Bulgaria; complete equality of rights of all inhabitants of Macedonia; political autonomy, with the eventual prospect of a federation of all the Balkan States" — such must be the political creed of all Macedonians. The cause of failure, both in Bulgaria and in Macedonia, has been the endless internal party warfare in Bulgaria. In future, a sharp line must be drawn between Bulgarian and Macedonian affairs. A Macedonian who mixes in Bulgarian party politics must keep aloof from the struggle for the freedom of Macedonia, and a Bulgarian who devotes himself to the Macedonian cause must turn his back upon the internal and external aspirations of Bulgaria. || M. Mikhailovsky is said to intend to undertake a lecturing tour in Europe.

F. Elliot.

Nr. 12779. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Minister des Ausw. Die Pforte will eine Untersuchungskommission ernennen.

Therapia, July 2, 1901. (July 8.)

My Lord, || I inquired of the Minister for Foreign Affairs yesterday what truth there was in a statement I had seen in a foreign newspaper to the effect that, at the instance of the Russian Ambassador, a Commission was about to be sent into Macedonia to inquire into the condition of affairs in that province. || Tewfik Pasha repled that, owing to several complaints received at the Palace from the officials and inhabitants of various districts, the idea of appointing a Commission of Inquiry had originated with the Sultan, but that it was in no way due to any representations made by M. Zinovieff, whose only recent references to Macedonia had been to urge the Imperial Government to keep within the law and the bounds of humanity in repressing any insurrectionary attempts directed against the Government. || His Imperial Majesty had instructed the Council of Ministers to select and recommend members of three Commissions — the one administrative, the second financial, and the third judicial — with a view to the careful examination of the mode and manner in which these several functionaries were exercising their authority, and to the redress of such abuses as were shown to exist. The members of each Commission had accordingly been chosen and recommended to the Palace, but the Imperial Iradé had not yet been

promulgated, and his Excellency was unable to say when the Commissions would begin their labours. || I said that the execution of this project would give general satisfaction, provided the members of the Commission inspired confidence. I added that the measures seemed highly expedient in the interests both of His Majesty the Sultan and the Ottoman Government, and that I hoped that his Excellency would give it all the support he possibly could. N. R. O'Conor.

Nr. 12780. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Konstantinopel. Die Lage ist nicht bedenklich. Soll sich mit den übrigen Botschaftern verständigen.

Foreign Office, July 13, 1901.

Sir, || The Greek Chargé d'Affaires called some days ago and stated that his Government were alarmed at the state of affairs in Macedonia, and would be glad if your Excellency could be instructed to join in representations to the Porte as to the necessity of taking measures for the preservation of order. || The most recent reports received from you on the condition of Macedonia have not indicated the existence of any urgent cause for alarm, and although disturbances have been reported from Albania and Novi Bazar, the first accounts appear to have been exaggerated, and order has been restored without much difficulty. I note also from your Excellency's despatch of the 2nd instant that the Sultan has appointed a Commission to investigate the situation on the spot. || Your Excellency is, however, authorized to join in any representations on the necessity of adequate measures for maintaining order which the Ambassadors of the other Powers may be instructed to make.

Lansdowne.

Nr. 12781. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Bericht des Generalkonsuls in Saloniki an den Botschafter in Konstantinopel über die bulgarischen Komitees in Mazedonien.

Salonica, July 5, 1901.

Sir, || Though there is apparently a momentary lull in the proceedings of the Bulgarian Committees in Macedonia, it should not be supposed that the recent measures taken by the Turkish Government have to any appreciable degree discouraged them from pursuing their course of active intrigue. Indeed, they boast that of all the men arrested and condemn-

ed in this and the neighbouring vilayets, not a single one was a real „Comitaji", all being peasants who had merely assisted them in a secondary capacity. || I have lately succeeded in ascertaining, from a source which I consider most trustworthy and, especially, completely impartial, some details concerning these „Comitajis" in the districts of Ghevgheli and Doiran, which, since these districts are known to be the centre of Committee propaganda, may be taken as representing the state of things all over Macedonia. || Bulgarian agents are told off — most of them, my informant thinks, but is not sure, from Sophia — to recruit each a band of ten men, of whom he takes command. They make the mountains, where they are out of the reach of the Gendarmerie, their base, descending thence occasionally to scour the villages in search of adherents to their cause. They hold up to the peasants a picture of the Virgin and a dagger, making them kiss each and swear fidelity to the cause, and warning them that should they prove unfaithful they will fall by the dagger. || These bands are armed with good rifles, manufactured in Austria, similar to those in use in the Bulgarian army. Each man carries 180 rounds and a small revolver. They are further provided with dynamite bombs, the size of a very big orange. My informant had one of these latter put into his hands, as also one of the cartridges, which was emptied to show him its charge of grey, smokeless powder. They have a stock of uniforms, made apparently of a kind of waterproof material, which, from the description given me by my informant, who examined one, must be of much the same colour as khaki. These uniforms are buried in safe places until such time as they may be required. All agree, however, in saying that no movement is expected this year. Meanwhile, not being provided with a change of clothes, they rub their bodies with oil to keep out vermin. || The bands in question seem to exercise no pressure on the peasants, who give in their adhesion to the cause, other than forcing them to supply bread; but they insist on their orders being unfalteringly obeyed, and are pitiless to those who refuse to join them, threatening them with death, and frequently carrying out their threat, as was the case on the 12th ultimo at the village of Fourka, in the district of Ghevgheli, where they murdered two Orthodox Christians and the Moslem village guard. || My informant tells me that the leaders of the bands have, by giving out as their object the amelioration of the condition of the populations, and the introduction of reforms into the country, induced not only non-Bulgarian Christians, but even Moslem villagers, moved by either fear or hope, to side with them. || My informant answered my doubts as to the truth of some of these facts by

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assuring me that every detail was absolutely correct; that he had spoken with all parties, and seen and handled the objects he mentioned. || If, then, he has not been of set purpose misled — which I consider very unlikely — or if even only part of his information is true, the situation in Macedonia is such as to call for immediate and serious attention before the whole country becomes involved in a state of excitement, which it will be difficult to control without the application of coercive measures on a far larger scale than one would at present suppose necessary. || The number of the Committees' partisans was stated to my informant by Bulgarian „onbashis" (corporals) at 20000, of whom 4000 are in Ghevgheli and Doiran. I am persuaded that this is a gross exaggeration, but with this exception I believe all the details given me, the more so that they agree with information I have obtained from other sources, namely, that there are several small bands of Bulgarians, the number of which cannot be ascertained, patrolling the country, and keeping it in a state of ferment, to suit the object they have in view at some more or less future date. || Although your Excellency may have seen the Regulations drawn up by the Bulgarian Committees in Macedonia, and affecting the bands in question, I am taking the liberty, as I find that no copy has been sent to the Embassy, of transmitting one, inclosed for your Excellency's information, as it clearly shows in what spirit the Committees are working. A. Biliotti.

P. S. — The inclosed Regulations are the translation of a paper, written in Bulgarian, found on one of the men arrested in the town of Salonica on the denunciation of other Bulgarian prisoners.

A. B.

Anlage.

Regulations of the Bulgarian Committee in Macedonia.

(Traduction.) || Toutes les bandes armées se composent de Bulgares indigènes d'une certaine région limitée. Ceux-ci exécutent secrètement les ordres donnés par le Président du Comité. || Les devoirs des bandes armées: || Les bandes armées se composent d'hommes munis d'armes fournies par le Comité. Ces bandes sont formées par les Comités Révolutionnaires de chaque district ou village, et reçoivent l'instruction militaire nécessaire à leurs vues. Ces bandes sont indépendantes des Comités et distribuent à leur tour des armes à ceux qu'elles enrôlent et qu'elles gagnent à leur cause. Ces bandes sont chargées par les Présidents des Comités de Révolte de pourvoir aux armements de ceux qu'elles embauchent dans leurs districts et de faire des provisions d'armes et de poudre

qu'elles tiennent cachées, et comme ces bandes obéissent aux Présidents des Comités de Révolte, la responsabilité de leurs actes incombe à ces derniers. || Les Comités de Révolte sont tenus à observer les règles suivantes: —

1. Partout où il existe un Comité de Propagande il doit travailler à faire des complots contre l'État et à s'assurer par des inspections et des examens que les instructions des Comités sont bien comprises. || 2. Là où il n'existe pas de partisans révolutionnaires, il cherche à soulever les indigènes, ou il compose une bande armée suivant le Règlement. En cas de succès le Président du Comité Central (de Sophia) est prévenu pour donner de l'extension au parti nouveau. || 3. Le Comité du district cherche à répandre des idées révolutionnaires parmi les indigènes par des discours et propos incendiaires. Ces révolutionnaires agissent au nom du Comité qui se trouve dans la circonscription.

Les bandes armées sont soumises aux ordres des Comités des régions limitées conformément aux règles suivantes: — || 1. Se conformer aux instructions données. || 2. Par la persuasion ou par la terreur mettre les personnes embauchées par les bandes à la disposition du Comité. || 3. Mettre à mort les personnes désignées par les Comités. || 4. Transporter les armes d'un endroit à un autre pour permettre aux Comités de remplir leurs devoirs sans craindre d'être vus et absorber l'attention de l'autorité locale. || 5. Chaque bande est à la discrétion des Comités de Révolte qui se trouvent dans leur circonscription. Elle lèvera l'étendard de la révolte sur l'ordre des Comités du district, et ces Comités n'agissent que sur les ordres du Président du Comité à Sophia. || 6. Ce sont les bandes qui donneront du courage aux indigènes pendant la révolution, et pour y réussir, les bandes ont besoin de se conformer aux règles suivantes: — || (*a.*) Attirer le peuple à elles par de bonnes manières, de façon que ce peuple soit prêt à faire des sacrifices au besoin. || (*b.*) Mettre dans l'esprit du peuple, par de telles paroles, que toujours les révolutions donnent de bons résultats — en un mot, agir promptement et par tous les moyens pour gagner l'esprit public à leur cause. || (*c.*) Étudier toute la chaîne des montagnes, les passages, et les cols où l'on peut se cacher et obtenir des villageois, par n'importe quelle manière, à leur dire tout ce qui se passe et ce qu'ils entendent autour d'eux. || (*d.*) Les bandes commettent aussi des crimes politiques — c'est-à-dire, qu'elles tuent et se débarrassent des hommes qui les empêchent d'arriver à leur but, et aussitôt elles avertissent Sophia de leurs crimes commis.

Les instructions de toutes les bandes: || Les instructions des bandes seront gardées très secrètement, la plus petite indiscrétion pouvant amener

de grands désastres. Ce qu'il y a de plus important c'est de faire tout son possible pour présenter un visage accueillant par de bonnes mœurs. || Les Comités du district sont obligés de mettre à exécution toutes les préscriptions du Règlement et sont aussi tenus de ne pas les rendre publiques. || Les choses qui concernent la corruption ne seront pas répétées. Les décisions des Comités seront transmises aux bandes par des Inspecteurs, qui seront les intermédiaires entre les bandes et les Comités. Il faut faire grande attention de ne rien laisser entendre aux enfants et aux femmes, parce que ceux-ci ne peuvent pas supporter les poursuites et les peines du Gouvernement. Les jeunes révolutionnaires n'ont pas le droit d'examiner à fond ce qui ne leur convient pas. Pour traiter une question importante ou pour défendre plus ardemment l'attaque de l'ennemi, deux bandes peuvent se réunir, et dans le cas d'une réunion pareille le chef de cette force sera le chef de la bande locale. Mais en tout cas, l'ordre de réunion se donne par le Président du Comité. || Une bande ne peut passer la frontière de sa circonscription sans l'ordre du Président, que si elle est poursuivie ou qu'elle cherche à dérouter le Gouvernement, ou bien pour commettre une grande corruption urgente. En temps ordinaire il n'est pas permis à une bande de dépasser ses limites; il est également interdit aux différents membres des bandes de correspondre entre eux. || Les vengeances personnelles, les attaques contre des villages, et toute indiscrétion en général dans le but de soulever la révolution est absolument défendue, et ceux qui s'en rendront coupables seront condamnés à mort. Aucun meurtre ne pourra être commis par les bandes sans décision préalable du Comité, sauf ceux inévitables dans un combat accidentel.

Rapport entre les Comités et les bandes: || Les bandes exécutent les ordres des Présidents de leurs districts et obéissent aussi à un agent envoyé par le Comité Central. Dans ce cas elles devront avertir leurs Présidents locaux de tout ce qu'elles sont chargées de faire par ordre de cet agent. || Les Comités des différentes régions exécutent les ordres donnés par le Président du Comité Central à Sophia en faisant agir les bandes qui avertissent les Comités, à la fin de chaque mois, de tout ce qu'elles ont fait, et ces derniers avertissent le Comité Central. || Le Président du Comité d'une certaine région limitée est obligé de préparer les habits, les armes, les provisions, et tout ce qui est nécessaire à la bande qui se trouve sous ses ordres; il lui désigne les retraites où elle pourra se cacher et lui ordonne de faire tout c e qu'il faut pour arriver au but de ses intentions. || Les bandes ont besoin de guides, et comme les Présidents des Comités se trouvent la plupart du temps aux villages et aux bourgs, ce sont eux qui suggéreront aux paysans d'aider

les bandes. Les communications des nouvelles entre le chef d'une bande et le Président du Comité se feront verbalement ou par écrit, selon le Règlement spécial du Comité. || Pour accomplir un assassinat il faut un ordre écrit du Président. || Les bandes ne doivent pas garder des documents auprès d'elles Elles les détruisent, et les plus importants sont gardés au dépôt des documents du Comité. || C'est le Comité du district qui tranche les difficultés qui surgissent entre les chefs de la bande et ses compagnons. Quant aux difficultés qui surgissent entre le Comité et la bande elles sont tranchées par le Comité Central de Sophia, et s'il y a simplement une divergence d'opinions on envoie un agent de la part du Comité Central. || Les bandes peuvent changer de place d'après l'ordre des Comités respectifs, mais jamais sans cet ordre. Quant aux ordres de dispersion et de dissolution, ils ne peuvent être donnés que par le Comité Central.

Composition et administration des bandes: || 1. Les bandes se composent de cinq ou six personnes. || 2. Chaque bande a son chef et son secrétaire, qui sont nommés par le Comité Central à Sophia. || 3. Les hommes qui composent les bandes doivent être jeunes et endurcis aux fatigues des montagnes, habitués à mener une vie retirée et être courageux pour remplir leurs devoirs. || 4. Ceux-ci doivent être plus intelligents et plus ardents que leurs chefs pour mener à bonne fin les ordres reçus. || 5. Les jeunes gens qui s'engagent dans une bande sont nommés par les Comités des districts, avec approbation du Comité Central. || 6. Le déplacement d'une bande se fait par les Comités de régions. || 7. Les bandes tuent ou lâchent les hommes tombés entre leurs mains après entente avec leurs Comités. || 8. Les bandes ne doivent pas rebuter les villageois par leurs exigences. Elles doivent observer une conduite tranquille dans les lieux où elles seront reçues. || 9. Elles doivent faire tout leur possible pour gagner la confiance du peuple et passer une vie pacifique avec lui. || 10. Ceux qui songeront à leurs propres intérêts ou qui déserteront en cas d'un combat seront exclus de la bande. || 11. Ceux qui se rendront coupables d'intrigues ou de ruses seront blâmés publiquement pour leur manquement aux devoirs sacrés qu'ils ont contractés. || 12. En toute chose les membres d'une bande ont les mêmes droits. || 13. Les conspirateurs n'ont pas le droit d'aller voir leurs parents et leurs alliés sans l'ordre des Présidents de leurs Comités respectifs. || 14. Ils doivent cacher toujours leurs noms, les endroits d'où ils viennent, et ceux où ils vont. || 15. Personne ne peut sortir de sa bande sous prétexte de réunir une autre bande ou passer à une autre sans l'ordre des Présidents respectifs. || 16. En cas de désobéissance le délinquant sera désarmé et mis en

prison. || 17. Les armes des bandes appartiennent aux Comités, et alors quand une personne quittera la bande sans un motif légitime ses armes seront livrées aux Comités par le Président. || 18. Le Secrétaire dirige la correspondance entre les bandes et les Comités, mais toujours par ordre du Président. || 19. Le Secrétaire a aussi le droit d'inspecter les bandes avec le Président et s'occuper de donner au peuple une idée révolutionnaire et de leur fournir des armes. || 20. Les différends qui s'élèvent entre le peuple et les bandes seront réglés à l'amiable; il ne faut pas faire usage de mauvais procédés. || 21. Pour les fautes graves, telles que le refus de rester de garde à son poste, la désobéissance aux ordres reçus, l'insubordination envers les chefs, les peines sont différentes. Parfois on est condamné à une mission qui peut lui coûter la vie.

La condamnation à mort est prononcée dans les cas suivants: — || 1. Quand on divulgue les intentions du Comité ou que l'on a des velléités de trahison dans un but intéressé. || 2. Quand on déserte la bande pendant un combat. || Ces arrêts seront aussitôt exécutés. L'arrêt est prononcé par le Comité Régional et approuvé par le Comité Central. En cas d'urgence on peut exécuter le condamné sans attendre l'avis du Comité de Sophia.

Nr. 12782. **GROSSBRITANNIEN** — Bericht des Generalkonsuls in Saloniki an den Botschafter in Konstantinopel über allerlei Exzesse.

Salonica, July 7, 1901.

Sir, || I have the honour to report the following cases of brigandage and political crime which occurred in this vilayet during the past month of June: — || On the 12th ultimo the authorities of the Caza of Avret Hissar reported that a band of Bulgarians had had an encounter near the village of Isnafché with five gendarmes, under the orders of a corporal and a Police Commissary, and they had all been killed. || The Acting Vice-Consul at Serres reported to me that, on the information of a Vlach shepherd, a squad of Turkish soldiers came up with a band of seven Bulgarians on the Ali Boutoush Mountain, two hours from Serres. Two Bulgarians, including their Chief, Kotcho Krestenlitzali, were killed; the others escaped. || In the village of Fourka, Caza of Doïran, two Christians, Christo Ikmiji and Christo Yovan Arabaji, were murdered by Bulgarians on the 12th ultimo, together with a Moslem, Ali Pehlevan, the village guard. I was told that the two former, who were Orthodox, had been invited to dinner by the leader of the Exarchate party, and were mur-

dered by Comitajis. Five Bulgarians of the village of Boganza and one of that of Fourka have been arrested on suspicion. || A well-known Greek brigand, called Georgi Dimopoulo, attacked, in the middle of last month, the farm of Mikhalaki Bey, formerly member of the Council of State. The farm, which is situated near Cassandra, was so stoutly held by the steward and a gendarme who took part in its defence, that the brigands had to set fire to it before the former surrendered. The steward was decapitated. The outrage is supposed to have been an act of vengeance. || Soldiers and gendarmes sent by order of the Vali came in touch with them, three soldiers and one brigand being killed, while three others were wounded and subsequently murdered by their comrades to prevent their falling into the hands of the gendarmes. || A band of Bulgarians in the vicinity of Kilindir murdered two Christians in a mill some days ago. || In the same Mutessariflik, Caza of Melenico, at the village of Kalivia (or Loupovo), exclusively inhabited by Vlachs, the notorious Bulgarian brigand chief (and also, it is supposed, Comitaji) Dontcho, with a band of twenty-five followers, killed the Kahaya Stergio Bouloubashi and two others, burnt down his house, and carried off to the mountains four persons belonging to well-to-do local families. Their fate is unknown. This man is the same Dontcho who, at the head of twenty men, murdered four of Mr. Bizzo's men at Microvo. The murder of the Vlach by Dontcho may, I think, have been an act of revenge for the denunciation of the seven Bulgarians by the Vlach shepherd, as mentioned above. || I understand, too, that the Bulgarians have an old-standing grudge against the Vlachs of that district, the latter having a few years ago acted as guides to the Imperial troops, and having caused the capture and death of many Bulgarians. || The Acting Vice-Consul at Serres reports further that, on information given by a gendarme that brigands had been seen on the hills close to the town, a strong detachment of mounted police had been sent to look for them. || The Bulgarian Commercial Agent has informed me that on or about the 25th ultimo a Bulgarian named Dimitri Georghieff Tominoff, of the village of Gegovan, in the Caza of Langaza, was invited to a wedding in the neighbouring village of Klepalo, and went accompanied by a Turk. Ten days after his body was discovered between these two villages.

Alfred Biliotti.

Nr. 12783. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Bericht desselben über die Lage der bulgarischen Gefangenen in Saloniki.

Salonica, July 17, 1901.

Sir, || I have the honour to inform jour Excellency that in an interview which I had with the Vali ten days ago, I left with him the Petition handed to the Consular Body by the Bulgarian prisoners, on his expressing a wish to know its exact contents. || In a subsequent interview which I have just had with his Excellency, he was good enough to give me the following particulars concerning the prison. On his arrival here the total number of prisoners was about 900. Of these 71, among whom a few Bulgarians, have been set at liberty on the 25th June, anniversary of the Prophet's birthday, and 120, mostly Bulgarians, are to be sent shortly to the prisons of Rhodes, Boudroun, and St. Jean d'Acre. But nearly 100 fresh prisoners having been incarcerated, the total is now about 800. || In the Petition handed to the Consuls, the Bulgarian prisoners especially complained of — || 1. Overcrowding; || 2. The generally filthy condition of the prisons; || 3. The disgraceful state of the water-closets; || 4. That many sick prisoners were not duly attended to for motives of economy; and 5. That a number of Moslem prisoners were allowed to keep their knives, wich were a menace to the lives of the Christian prisoners. || The Vali confessed that the first three points are confirmed by facts. His Excellency ascertained that the prisons, which contain 800 inmates, have space for only half that number, at most for 500. He proposed that „Beyaz Koulé“ or the „White Tower“ where there is spacious accommodation, should be utilized as a prison. || Since, however, he is unable to take such a step on his own initiative, he has applied to Constantinople for permission to carry out his suggestion which he has not yet been authorized to do. || Meanwhile he has caused the prisons to be cleaned as far as the overcrowding permits at present. The water-closets have also to be transferred elsewhere. All these improvements will require some time, but his Excellency appears decided to carry them out as soon as circumstances allow him to do so. Tewfik Bey told me that there was no foundation whatever with regard to the fourth point; and that the truth about the fifth point is that, after a thorough search in the prison, two knives were discovered which had been concealed in the earth or beneath stones by the prisoners. || The number of Bulgarian prisoners condemned during the recent trials, which amounted to 114 (117 according to the list supplied me by a Bulgarian Notability — the discrepancy of three may be accounted for by the number of those tried by default), is now reduced to 112 in consequence of two deaths which have occurred

since their incarceration. The Bulgarians knew only of one death ten days ago, the second death having taken place since that date. Of the Bulgarian prisoners previous to the last trials there are 185, giving at the present moment a total of 297, about one-third of whom will be sent to other prisons (Rhodes, Boudroun, St. Jean d'Acre), leaving in round figures 200 in the Salonica prisons. From information received to-day I learn that the prisoners condemned to death (whose sentence was confirmed by the Court of Cassation) are to be all sent to some of the fortified places mentioned, away from Salonica. In view of the fact that the Imperial Iradé required for the execution of capital sentences has not yet been issued, and that such sentences must be executed on the spot where the trial and crime took place, it would appear that there is a certain possibility of reprieve for those condemned to death. || I suggested to the Vali that it would be interesting to find out the percentage of mortality in the present condition of the vilayet (which, he thought, was now about 2 per 1000 per month), in order to compare it with the mortality after the improvements which he is carrying out, and his Excellency appeared inclined to do so. || My impression is that Tewfik Bey has the best intentions with regard to sanitation and other improvements in the prisons at Salonica, and that unless hindered by circumstances beyond control, he has the determination necessary to carry out his resolve.

Alfred Biliotti.

Nr. 12784. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Athen an den Minister des Ausw. Das albanische Komitee verteilt von Corfu aus Waffen.

Athens, August 19, 1901. (August 26.)

My Lord, || I learn, from what I believe to be a good source, that an Albanian Revolutionary Committee has been in existence at Corfu for some time past, and is endeavouring to foment agitation and to distribute arms amongst the Albanian tribes. A consignment of rifles of a recent type, which had been dispatched by the Committee, was seized by the Turkish authorities at Porto Palermo last spring, and a further consignment has since been introduced into the country by way of Chimara. I am informed that the Committee has lately come to terms with the Epirote Revolutionary Society, and that these two bodies, if not actually fused into one, are now working together with the object of putting an end to Turkish rule in Albania. The movement is stated to be entirely unconnected with any real or pretended Italian intrigues, but to be sup-

ported by certain „Young Turks", and amongst others by Mahmoud, the brother-in-law of the Sultan, who is now at Corfu. || I should add that I cannot vouch for the accuracy of the above information, though I consider that the source from which I have obtained it is sufficiently good to warrant my reporting it to your Lordship. || Whilst on this subject I may mention that, as far as I can ascertain, the Greek Government is most anxious to maintain a correct attitude towards Turkey in regard to the „Young Turkish" agitation, and to avoid any appearance of connivance at the proceedings of any members of that party who may have taken refuge in Greek territory. Francis Stronge.

Nr. 12785. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Minister des Ausw. Vorstellungen des russischen Botschafters wegen der Unruhen an der serbischen Grenze.

Therapia, September 9, 1901. (September 16.)

My Lord, || In my despatch of the 19th ultimo on the disturbed condition of the northwest frontier of Macedonia, I had the honour to report to your Lordship that the Russian Embassy was intervening to prevent the Servian population of Old Servia from being driven over the border by the persistent and premeditated persecution of the Albanian clans. || Further representations were reported to have been made by M. Zinovieff on the 3rd instant, and I am now informed that, as a result of this action, an Iradé has been issued dismissing the Mutessarif of Prishtina, Djemal Bey, ordering the arrest and trial of a number of police agents and Albanian Beys, and granting permission to the Servian refugees to return. Similar demands had been in vain preferred by the Servian Minister, so that the success of the Russian Ambassador will, no doubt, be highly appreciated at Belgrade. Whether, however, they will be carried out in so far as the Albanian Beys are concerned may be doubted. N. R. O'conor.

Nr. 12786. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. Haltung der bulgarischen Regierung gegen das mazedonische Komitee. Rundschreiben an die bulgarischen Vertreter im Auslande.

Sophia, September 30, 1901. (October 14.)

(Extract.) || During a recent interview with M. Sarafoff, the Bulgarian Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, I inquired whether it was the case

that his Government had addressed a Circular to the Bulgarian Representatives abroad, defining the attitude of the former with regard to the Macedonian Committee, and I at the same time suggested that, if such where the case, it would be in the interest of the Bulgarian Government to bring the contents of the Circular to the knowledge of the foreign Representatives. || M. Sarafoff replied that he was unaware of any such step having been taken by M. Daneff, but that, in the event of a Circular of that nature having been issued, he would be glad to adopt my suggestion. || I have now the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of the Circular in question which M. Sarafoff handed to me on the 28th instant with the remark that his Government was determined to act in the spirit of M. Daneff's declaration. He had already taken measures for „interning" nearly 200 Macedonians at present in Sophia, but he was convinced that the division produced in the Committee by the secession of Boris Sarafoff and his friends would prove more effectual than any official action in reducing the entire organization to impotence as an element of disorder, and he himself regarded the Secret Committee as non-existent. || I replied that, although I welcomed the good resolutions of the Bulgarian Government, I could not, in view of the facts I had been obliged to submit to M. Sarafoff in connection with the recent capture of Miss Stone, share his satisfaction with the result so far obtained, nor could I admit that the Secret Committee was a mere chimera. || It is announced in this evening's papers that, by M. Sarafoff's orders, about a dozen Macedonians of the lowest class have been sent from the capital into the interior of the Principality, but such measures cost the Government nothing, and leave the ringleaders scot-free.

Anlage.

Circular to Bulgarian Representatives Abroad.

Le Gouvernement Princier ne tolérera pas en Bulgarie, de la part de Comités Macédoniens, des actes qui ne seraient pas en harmonie avec les lois du pays. Contre tous actes de violence et de terrorisme que les Comités essaieraient de commettre il est fermement décidé à sévir avec toute la rigueur des lois. D'aucune manière et sous aucun prétexte, il ne permettra que les Comités forment une sorte d'État dans l'État. S'ils veulent exister, ces Comités doivent se maintenir sur le terrain de de la légalité. || Le Gouvernement Bulgare estime que cette ligne de conduite, qui lui est dictée avant tout pars le lois, est aussi la plus conforme aux intérêts véritables et bien entendus de notre cause en Turquie; car,

en accomplissant ainsi son devoir, il pourra être en droit de demander à son tour que les autres Gouvernements remplissent les engagements qu'ils ont pris en vertu de l'Article XXIII du Traité de Berlin. || Ayant en vue ce qui précède, vous saisirez toutes les occasions favorables qui se présenteront à vous pour déclarer comment le Gouvernement Princier entend ses devoirs et ses droits par rapport aux intérêts généraux de la Bulgarie.

Le 20 Août (2 Septembre), 1901.

Nr. 12787. **GRIECHENLAND.** — Bericht des Sekretärs der Hellenismus-Gesellschaft, Christovasili, über das griechische Element in Epirus in der „Acropolis" Nov. 1901.

Epirus is mainly inhabited by two races, the Hellenic and the Albanian; there are no Slavonic villages, and the Slavonic spirit does not exist. || Besides the Greeks and Albanians, there are about ten Vlach villages, of wich the inhabitants, besides having a most Greek habit of thought, speak Greek as their mother tongue, differing in no way in civil and religious customs from the Greeks. Many distinguished Greeks are of Vlach extraction, Coletti, Zalocosta, Costas Crystallis, Tositsas, Stournaras, and Averoff. Most oft the merchants and leading persons at Janina and Metsovo are Vlachs. || These Vlachs of Epirus would esteem it an offence to be considered of a comrade race with the Roumans. A proof of this is given by the celebrated propagandist, Apostolos Margarites, who wastes millions of Rouman francs in Macedonia and Epirus to tempt the Vlachs to reassume Roumanian nationality; but with all his efforts, aided by the Turkish authorities, he has entirely failed in converting a single Epirot Vlach. While, as for the Roumanian gymnasium existing in Janina up to last June — without any practical results — merely as a proof (adversited by the attacks of the Greek press), that the Roumanian flood has reached as far as Janina, the rent of the school and the salary of a master have been paid for years without a single pupil. It was dissolved this year after the interview at Abbazia. || Besides the Vlachs in the Villages and towns, there are about 700 families of Albanian nomad Vlachs who take up their winter quarters in Prevesa, Parga, Paramythia, Philista, Avlona, and Musaka, camping in the summer on the Zagorion Mountains and the south-west of Macedonia. These nomads can generally speak Greek, Vlach, and Albanian, but only write in Greek. They are always baptized by Greek priests. || There is also in

Janina a colony of over 2000 Jews, and many others are scattered about in towns of Epirus, exercising various trades. They are most frequently tinkers. This colony is said to have existed in Epirus before the birth of Jesus Christ. These Jews only speak Greek, which is the only trade language of Epirus. || Of the Greeks and Albanians in Epirus, some are Christians, some Mussulmans, whilst the Vlachs and Albanians Vlachs are all Christians. The Jews profess their own religion. || The only Turks in Epirus are officials and soldiers who come and go. Of the native Mohammedans in Epirus most are Albanians, the Greek Mohammedans mostly live at Janina, Prevesa, Louros, a suburb of Arta, Paramythia, Konitsa; but they speak Greek. Their ancestors embraced the Mohammedan religion when the country was conquered by the Turks. || Till about twelve years ago the Turkish Tribunals in Epirus used only the Greek language, but owing to the want of tact of a patriotic headmaster of the gymnasium of Janina, who boasted of this use of the immortal Greek language, the Turkish authorities woke up, dismissed the gymnasiarch, and forbade the use of the Greek language in the Tribunals, thus obliging many of the lawyers either to learn Turkish or abandon their profession. But, notwithstandig this, the use of the Greek tongue has not been entirely abolished in the Turkish Tribunals of Yanina and other towns of Epirus, for, besides the presiding Judges, the other members of the Courts, who are local people, speak Greek, and are compelled to express themselves to the Turkish Judge through interpreters. || The Christians of Epirus from the Arachthos to Bediana and from Metsovo to Avlona, be they Greeks, Vlachs, or Albanians, are of the Orthodox Eastern Church. || The Mussulmans of Epirus possess few mosques and priests, and are very slack in their religion. They are generally uncircumcised, and do not fast at Ramazan. Indeed, when the Turkish authorities have endeavoured to impose circumcision of Epirot children, it has produced an outbreak as was lately the case at Philiatre. || The Zosimayas school in Janina is Greek, and in it the sons of many of the leading Mussulman Beys have been educated, such as Turkhan Pasha, Abentin Pasha, Ismaïl Kemel Bey, &c.

The Vilayet of Janina is divided into three portions: — || (*a.*) That between the Arachthos (Arta) and Thyanis (Kalama); || (*b*) That between the Thyanis (Kalama) and Aoos (Viosa); || (*c.*) That between the Aoos (Viosa) and Apsos (Semeni). || Officially the province is divided into four Departments, under a general Governor at Janina: A. Department at Janina with six Eparchies: Janina, Paramythia, Filiati, Konitsa, Metsovo, and Lieskoviki. || B. Department of Prevesa with three Eparchies: Prevesa, Luros, and Philippiadæ, and Margariti. || C. Department of Argyrocastro, with six Eparchies:

Argyrocastro, Pogonia, Premeti, Delvini, Liapuri[1], and Tepeleni. || D. Department of Berati, with four Eparchies: Berat, Avlona, Gousnitska and Louanitska. || In the portion of Epirus between the Rivers Arta and Kalamas, the population is thus distributed: — || The Eparchy of *Janina* contains 90 000 souls: of which 80 000 are Greek (76 000 Christians and 4000 Mussulmans), 5000 Vlachs, and 2500 Albanian Vlachs (all Christians), and 2500 Jews in the town of Janina. || *Luro Philippiadae.* — 14 000 Greeks (13 500 Christians and 500 Mahommedans). || *Prevesa.* — 10 000 Greeks (9000 Christians and 500 Mahommedans). || *Margariti.* — 24 000: of which 19 500 are Albanians and 4500 Greeks (1000 Mahommedans, mostly Albanians, and 9000 Christians). || *Paramythia.* — 15 000: 7500 Greeks, 7500 Albanians (9000 Christians, 6000 Mussulmans). || *Metsovo.* — 5500 (all Christians): 3000 Greeks and 2500 Vlachs. || *Konitsa.* — 17 500 Greeks (17 400 Christians, 100 Mussulmans).

In the second portion of Epirus between the Rivers Kalama and Viosa the numbers are as follows: — || *Kourenta.* — 5000: all Greeks and Christians. || *Filiatae.* — 25 000: of wich 15 000 are Greeks and Christians, and 10 000 Albanians and Mussulmans. || *Argyrocastro.* —31 500: 18 500 Greeks and 13 000 Albanians (25 000 Christians and 6500 Albanian Mussulmans). || *Pogonia.* — 21 500: all Greeks and Christians. || *Premeti.* — 8000: all Albanians (3000 Christians and 5000 Mussulmans). || *Delvini.* — 20 000: 18 000 Greeks and Christians, 2000 Albanians and Mussulmans· || *Cheimarras Liapouria.* — 16 000: 4000 Greeks and 12 000 Albanians (8000 Christians, 8000 Mahommedans). || *Tepeleni.* — 8000: all Albanians (3000 Christians and 5000 Mahommedans). || *Avlona.* — 27 5000: all Albanians (7000 Christians and 20 000 Mahommedans), with a certain number of nomad Albanian Vlachs.

The third portion between the Viosa and Semeni is inhabited entirely by Albanians, excepting 1000 Greeks; Berat, 120 000 (80 000 Mussulmans, 40 000 Christians). || In the remaining part, Lescoviki, &c., 64 500 (31 000 Christians 33 500 Mahommedans). || This third portion has no relation to Hellenism, beyond that of the Tosk tribes being under the control of the Vali of Janina — that is to say, of Epirus. || In the two first portions the races are as follows: —

Greeks between the Arta and Kalama	136 000	
Greeks between the Kalama and Viôsa	105 500	
		241 500
Vlachs and Albanian Vlachs		12 500
Albanians between the Arta and Kalama . . .	27 000	
Albanians between the Kalama and Viôsa . . .	80 000	
		107 500
Jews		2 500
Total		364 000

The religions are as follows: —

Christians between the Arta and Kalama	147 000
Christians between the Kalama and Viôsa	108 000
Total Christians	255 000
Mahommedans between the Arta and Kalama	26 500
Mahommedans between the Kalama and Viôsa	56 000
Total Mahommedans	82 500

The writer concludes by saying that should the Ottoman Empire in Europe be dissolved and Greece re-establish the rights derived from history, geography, and descent, the Greek and Albanian frontier, if not the Semini, should be the Viosa. He adds in a postscript that since the Berlin Treaty, when their number was over 300 000, more than 60 000 Greeks have left Epirus.

Nr. 12788. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Konstantinopel. Die griechische Regierung wünscht Vorstellungen der Großmächte an die Pforte wegen Mazedoniens.

Foreign Office, February 28, 1902.

(Telegraphic.) || M. Métaxas states that he has received a long report on the condition of Macedonia, which has been sent to the Greek Representatives accredited to the Great Powers by the Greek Government. || According to this report, in the district of Monastir, and more recently in that of Salonica, murders were of frequent occurrence. || The hope was entertained by the Greek Government that the Great Powers would be disposed to make renewed representations to the Turkish Government as to the necessity for taking effective measures with the object of securing tranquillity and order. M. Métaxas had instructions to inquire whether His Majesty's Government would be willing to authorize you to join in such representations, and also whether they might not perhaps instruct His Majesty's Representative at Sophia to join in impressing on the Bulgarian Government the expediency of keeping in check the Bulgarian agitators. || His Majesty's Government are disposed to join in representations in the above sense. || I should be glad to learn whether instructions on the subject have been received by any of your colleagues.

Nr. 12789. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Minister des Ausw. an die Botschafter in Paris, Rom, Wien, Petersburg, Berlin. Hat die griechische Regierung Vorstellungen in Konstantinopel gefordert?

Foreign Office, February 28, 1902.

(Telegraphic.) || Macedonia. || With reference to my telegram of the 28th February to Sir N. O'Conor, which has been repeated to your Excellency, I should be glad to know whether the Government to which you are accredited are in receipt of a similar communication from the Greek Government, and, if so, what view they take of the question.

Nr. 12790. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Botschafter in Rom an den Minister des Ausw. Antwort auf Nr. 12789.

Rome, March 1, 1902. (March 1.)

(Telegraphic.) || Following, with reference to your Lordship's telegram of the 28th February. || No communication has yet been made to Italy by the Greek Government. || M. Prinetti has, however, informed me that the reports of the Greek Agent are confirmed by those he has received from Italian Consuls.

Nr. 12791. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Botschafter in Berlin an den Minister des Ausw. Antwort auf Nr. 12789.

Berlin, March 1, 1902. (March 1.)

(Telegraphic.) || The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs informed me that communication from the Greek Government, referred to in your telegram of the 28th February, has not been received here yet; he promised to communicate the reply of the German Government to me as soon as they have taken a decision. Dr. von Mühlberg thought, however, that his Government would hesitate to make joint representations to the Porte regarding the taking of more effective measures, from which an insurrection might result.

Nr. 12792. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Die Botschaft in Paris an den Minister des Ausw. Antwort auf Nr. 12789.

Paris, March 1, 1902. (March 1.)

(Telegraphic.) || No communication has as yet been received by M. Delcassé from the Greek Representative here with regard to Macedonian

affairs, which formed the subject of your Lordship's telegram of the 28th February, and for the present, therefore, he is unable to express any opinion.

Nr. 12793. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Botschafter in Petersburg an den Minister des Ausw. Antwort auf Nr. 12789.

St. Petersburgh, March 1, 1902. (March 1.)

(Telegraphic.) || Macedonia. The Austrian Ambassador informs me that he has exchanged views with Count Lamsdorff respecting the disquieting rumours referred to in Sir F. Plunkett's telegram of the 26th February. || Rumours of a similar nature have been on previous occasions received at this time of the year, and it was agreed to take the same steps as then, namely, to make representations to the Porte, and use firm language of advice and warning to the Governments of the Balkan States. || No indications of any fresh Armenian trouble, or of a combination between the Armenian and Macedonian agitators, appear to have reached the Russian Government.

Nr. 12794. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Botschafter in Wien an den Minister des Ausw. Gedankenaustausch zwischen Österreich-Ungarn und Rußland.

Vienna, February 26, 1902. (March 3.)

(Extract.) || During the course of a visit which I paid to the Foreign Department to-day, Count Lützow told me that the news received lately from the Near East was very unsatisfactory, and was engaging the serious attention of the Austro-Hungarian Government. || I said I hoped that this was only the annual spring revival of the rumours of troubles to break out in the Balkans when the snow melts. || Count Lützow replied that this time serious danger seemed to be really threatening, and very soon. The reports which have reached both the Austro-Hungarian and the Russian Governments from their agents in the Balkan Peninsula agree in warning that there is reason to believe the Macedonians propose to attempt a rising about the middle of this next month. The plan of the conspirators is understood to be based on examples furnished by the Anarchists. || I thanked Count Lützow for so kindly giving me this information, but added that I was surprised to hear that the Macedonians should choose this moment for a rising; the good understanding which was believed to exist between Vienna and St. Petersburgh seemed to me

calculated to prevent any such danger in the Balkans at present. || His Excellency replied that the feeling between the two Governments of Austria-Hungary and of Russia was entirely satisfactory, and that the visit of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand to St. Petersburgh had had excellent effect. The two Governments were now exchanging views in regard to these Macedonian intrigues, and he had pleasure in bearing witness to the loyalty with which the Russian Government were behaving towards this Government in the matter.

Nr. 12795. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Rom an den Minister des Ausw. Die griechische Regierung hat um Vorstellungen in Konstantinopel ersucht.

Rome, March 6, 1902. (March 6.)

(Telegraphic.) || With reference to the Macedonian agitation and to your Lordship's telegram of the 28th February. Yesterday, at his weekly reception, the Minister for Foreign Affairs received a communication from the Greek Chargé d'Affaires. || He replied that he would, that day, telegraph instructions to the Italian Ambassador at Constantinople that, as soon as his colleagues had received instructions to make the representations to the Porte suggested by the Greek Government, he should associate himself with them in making it.

Nr. 12796. **BULGARIEN.** — Projekt des 2. mazedonischen Kongresses für die Autonomie Mazedoniens.

Februar 1902.

Boundaries of Autonomous Province.

The present Vilayets of Salonica, Monastir, and Uskub to form one vilayet, with the capital Salonica, and the following frontier: —

A line leaving the Servian frontier near Vranya, and following the north-west limits of Cazas of Pryeshov, of Kumanova, of Kachanik and Tetousk [*i.e.*, south-east along the crest of the Kara Dagh to the Black Drin on the Albanian border, thus excluding Prishtina, Prizrend, and Old Servia]. Thence up the Drin and along the western limits of the Cazas of Ochrida and Koritza to the Grammos [due south along the Albanian border]. Thence along the southern limits of the Cazas of Kastoria, Kailar, Vodena, and Veria [due east along the extreme southern limit of the Bulgarian race] to the Vistritza and along it to the Ægean.

Thence the littoral, including the Chalcidic peninsula to the mouth of the Myesta or Karasu [on the border of Thrace], and up it to the confluence of the tributary on which Radibosh is situated, and along it to the Roumelian frontier [in a northerly direction, excluding the Rhodope and its Pomaks. This province would include, however, the Turkish districts north of Chalcidike, the promontory itself, which is purely Hellenic, the Hellenes, Hellenized Vlachs, and Bulgars of Monastir Vilayet, the Hellenes of Kavaila and the littoral, and the Servians and Albanians of Uskub. It is claimed that this frontier is in accordance with the views of the Conference of Constantinople of 1876, Protocol II of the sitting of the 16th (28th) October, and with that of the Berlin Congress. ? Protocol XIII].

Administration.

2. A Vali to be appointed for five years, who shall belong to the dominant race [*i. e.*, Bulgar; *vide* Règlement Organique de la Bulgarie, Article 4, paragraphs 1—6].

3. The Vali to govern with the aid of an Assembly elected directly by the people, with proper quarantees for the rights of the minority, and endowed with full legislative authority. [*Cf.* Project of Constantinople, Conference of 1876, Article 1, paragraphs 1—17. The text is not clear as to whether it is the Vali or the Assembly that is to have „full authority"; but the point is, under the circumstances, of no great importance.]

Civil Rights.

4. The person and property of every citizen to be guaranteed him. There is to be no press censorship. [*Cf.* Project of Eastern Roumelian Commission, Chapter 1, paragraphs 4—11—15.]

Civil Service.

5. All officials to be of the dominant race [Bulgar]; the higher appointed by the Sultan and proposed by the Vali; the lower appointed by the Vali. [*Cf.* Constantinople Conference, Chapter 1, Article 21, and Chapter 16.]

Language.

6. The language of the dominant race to be on an equal footing with Turkish officially. [*Cf.* Constantinople Conference, Chapter 1, Article 22.]

Education.

7. Education of the Christian population to be left entirely to the care of the respective educational organizations. [This concession to non-

Bulgars is a safe one, for the present educational organizations of Hellene and Servian rest merely on political propaganda, which would be abandoned or abolished in case this scheme were enforced.] [*Cf.* Turkish Education Act of 1836.]

Police.

8. For the preservation of peace and order a Constabulary to be embodied, under the orders of the Vali, drawn from the race of each locality, and numerically proportionate to it at the ratio of 1 per cent. to the local male population. Officers to be appointed as other officials. [*Vide* Article 5.] [This is borrowed from Article 8, paragraph 3, of the Project of the Constantinople Conference.]

Finance.

9. The Budget and taxes to be fixed by the Assembly. Twenty-five per cent. to be paid into the Imperial Treasury and the balance expended exclusively in the province. [*Cf.* Constantinople Conference, Article 5, paragraph 11.]

Execution.

10. These reforms to be executed by a Special Commission *ad hoc.*

Amnesty.

11. A full amnesty to all political offenders, whether convicts or suspects. [*Cf.* Article 9, Constantinople Conference.]

Adrianople.

12. This scheme to be also applied to the Vilayet of Adrianople. [*Vide* Article XXIII of Berlin Treaty.]

Nr. 12797. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Wien an den Minister des Ausw. Graf Goluchowski hält die Lage nicht für unmittelbar drohend.

Vienna, March 5, 1902. (March 10.)

(Extract.) || I called yesterday on Count Goluchowski, with whom I had not had an interview for some time. || I found that his Excellency had not yet received any report from Baron Calice, who had only returned this week to Constantinople, but he now seemed disposed to regard the situation in the Balkan Peninsula as no more immediately threatening than it had been on many other previous occasions at this time of year. It was, of course, possible that the fire might break out at any moment.

but he did not attach importance to the warnings received that a rising would be attempted either this month or next. He had generally noticed that risings announced beforehand seldom amounted to much. || I asked whether he attached any weight to the attempt on the Servian frontier made two days previously by Alavantic, and whether he supposed it might have any connection with the bringing on of a general state of disorder on the Balkans, which the Macedonian conspirators were reported to intend. || His Excellency replied that he considered Alavantic's attempt to be merely the act of a crazy adventurer, and, therefore, without any special importance; but it was always difficult to foresee what might, or might not, happen at any time in Servia. || The Vienna papers have published the letter, translation of which is inclosed, declaring that Alavantic is neither a relative nor a partisan of Prince Peter Karageorgievitch.

Anlage.

Extract from the „Neue Freie Presse" of March 8, 1902.

[To the Editor.] || Dear Sir, || As one of the nearest relations of Prince Peter Karageorgievitch, I beg you to publish the following correction of the reports which have appeared in the newspapers on the subject of Alavantic's revolutionary attempt: — || Alavantic is no relation of Prince Peter Karageorgievitch, nor had the Prince anything to do with him. Therefore, all reports which associate the name of Prince Peter Karageorgievitch with Alavantic's attempt are absolutely untrue.

Dr. Jaschev M. Nenadovitch.

Nr. 12798. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Wien. Die Botschafter in Konstantinopel sollen über die Lage beraten.

Foreign Office, March 12, 1902.

Sir, || The Austro-Hungarian Ambassador asked me, unofficially, to-day, whether I could tell him what action His Majesty's Government were likely to take in view of the possibility of disturbances in Macedonia, to which the attention of the Powers had been specially directed by the Greek Government. || I told his Excellency that I had already been in correspondence with our Ambassador at Constantinople upon this subject, and that I understood from him that his colleagues had not up to the present time been instructed to take any action. || I said that the Austro-Hungarian Government had exceptional opportunities of obtaining trust-

worthy information as to events in that part of the world, and that His Majesty's Government would be inclined to follow their lead. It seemed to me that the best course would be that the Ambassadors at Constantinople should consider the situation in consultation, and that they should then report to the Governments which they represented as to the best mode of preventing trouble from arising. || I thought it, however, of the utmost importance that any action taken by the Powers at Constantinople should be of the most cautious and tactful kind. || If we were to provoke the Porte into the adoption of violent measures of repression, the remedy might be worse than the disease. || I added that if the Austro-Hungarian Government thought that anything could be gained by representations at Sophia and Belgrade, we should be glad to associate ourselves with them in such representations. || His Excellency expressed his personal concurrence as to the action to be taken by the Ambassadors at Constantinople, and saw no objections to making representations at Sophia. He thought, however, that there was no reason for making such representations at Belgrade. Lansdowne.

Nr. 12799. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Minister des Ausw. Unruhen in Philiates.

Constantinople, March 15, 1902. (March 15.)

(Telegraphic.) || It is reported that serious disturbances have occurred among the Mahommedan population of Philiates. || The Government House was attacked by Albanians, and several gendarmes killed. It appears that until their arrears were paid the officers stopped the troops from leaving Janina.

Nr. 12800. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. Ansicht der bulgarischen Regierung über die mazedonischen Unruhen.

Sophia, March 15, 1902. (March 15.)

(Telegraphic.) || Your Lordship's telegram of the 12th March to His Majesty's Ambassador at Vienna. || As the present Bulgarian Government have shown every desire to discourage movements in Macedonia, representations to them seem to me uncalled for. || This morning the Minister for Foreign Affairs, while admitting the existence of bands in Macedonia, pointed out to me that the scene of their operations was in the interior,

and that the frontier districts are quiet. In his opinion the principal danger is that the Turkish pursuit of these bands may be accompanied by the usual excesses committed upon innocent persons, whereby the population, already in a state of exasperation from misgovernment, may be driven to desperation. || He told me that the Government has recently caused several companions of the „voivode“ Andonoff, referred to in my despatch of the 12th June last, to be arrested and interned. || I have repeated the above to His Majesty's Ambassadors at Vienna and Constantinople.

Nr. 12801. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Konstantinopel. Unterredung mit dem türkischen Botschafter. Die Pforte wünscht Vorstellungen der Großmächte in Sofia.

Foreign Office, March 15, 1902.

(Telegraphic.) || Yesterday the Turkish Ambassador read a Circular telegram from his Government which stated that, according to information received by them, the Revolutionary Committees in Macedonia had the intention of creating disturbances in that province, destroying the main roads in certain places, and provoking massacres with the object of raising discussions in the Bulgarian Sobranie and causing the Bulgarian Government to appeal to the European Powers. || The necessary precautionary measures had consequently been taken by the Turkish authorities, and all criminal attempts would be repressed at once.

Anthopoulo Pasha said that the Porte hoped that the Representatives of the Powers at Sophia would be instructed to let it be understood that no sympathy or countenance would be extended to such attempts. || I replied that the reports recently received by us in regard to the condition of Macedonia were such as to cause some anxiety, and that I was glad to learn that the Porte were alive to the danger which existed, and had taken precautions for the preservation of order in the disturbed parts. || I trusted that, in the event of trouble occurring and repressive measures becoming necessary, the Turkish Government would take great care to avoid indiscriminate or excessive severity, which would enlist sympathy in Europe against the Turkish authorities and on the side of the sufferers. || I added that you would receive authority to consult with the other Representatives of the Great Powers at Constantinople as to whether it would be expedient to make any representations to the Bulgarian Government, and whether any suggestions could be usefully offered to the Turkish Government.

Nr. 12802. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. Umtriebe des Revolutionärs Sarafoff in Mazedonien.

Sophia, March 12, 1902. (March 17.)

My Lord, || With reference to my despatch of the 4th instant, I have the honour to state that at M. Daneff's last reception I told him of the information which had reached your Lordship as to the presencc of Boris Sarafoff in Macedonia for the purpose of organizing massacres of Turks in order to provoke reprisals and bring about European intervention. || His Excellency said he had not heard this report, and did not believe it. He knew there were two or three revolutionary bands in Macedonia, none of them of recent formation, but that the people in general were disgusted with them, and would be heartily glad to be relieved of their presence. || I said I entirely believed it would be impossible to provoke an insurrection in Macedonia at present, but a massacre of a few Turks was another matter, and was always in the power of a handful of determined men to bring about. I asked him if he knew where Sarafoff is. || He replied that he had been lost sight of some months ago; that he was believed to have gone to Europe, and to be there still. || Ali Ferrouh Bey, the Ottoman Commissioner, to whom I spoke on the subject the same day, did not believe that Sarafoff would venture into Macedonia, the risk to his head being too great. He had similar information to that given me by M. Bracaloff, and reported in my despatch above referred to, as to Sarafoff's recent visit to Belgrade, except as regards the date of it, which he placed about ten days ago. Sarafoff, he said, had come to Belgrade from the West, and had summoned Davidoff from Sophia to help him in creating a Macedonian organization in Servia; failing in this they had left, Sarafoff returning to „Europe" and Davidoff to Sophia. || Ali Ferrouh Bey says that Macedonian bands are being formed here with the object of searching out Miss Stone's captors and relieving them of the ransom on the first opportunity. F. Elliot.

Nr. 12803. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Serbien an den Minister des Ausw. Dasselbe.

Belgrade, March 13, 1902. (March 17.)

My Lord, || I have the honour to report that the Turkish Minister fully confirms the prevailing impression that an insurrection is being organized in Macedonia by Sarafoff and his adherents from among the old Macedonian Committee. He is aware that it is not countenanced by

the new or central Macedonian Committee or by the Bulgarian Government, who are more or less amenable to the strongly-expressed representations of Russia and Austria, but he is doubtful whether, in the event of the brigands gaining a success, they would not meet with the covert support of the Central Committee, and even of the Bulgarian Government, who might not be able to restrain the movement. He did not, however, anticipate much difficulty from this source, as with a fifth Corps d'Armée the Turkish Government were quite able to annihilate („anéantir") Sarafoff's bands; but he said they were not sufficiently numerous to guard the whole frontier, and there was always the danger of emissaries from Bulgaria or elsewhere inducing the frontier villages to rise, which might lead to bloodshed and to an outcry in Europe against massacres.

G. F. Bonham.

Nr. 12804. **TÜRKEI.** — Der Botschafter in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Die Pforte hat strenge Befehle zur Unterdrückung der Banden gegeben.

(Received March 22.)

L'ambassadeur de Turquie présente ses compliments au Marquis de Lansdowne, et, conformément aux instructions qu'il vient de recevoir de son Gouvernement, a l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de sa Seigneurie que les Comités Macédoniens se remuent en ce moment de plus en plus, et que tous leurs efforts tendent à provoquer dans ces provinces, par toutes sortes de manœuvres, à l'aide de méfaits perpétrés par leurs affiliés, une agitation et des massacres, afin d'émouvoir l'opinion publique en Europe et y amener ainsi une intervention de la part des Puissances en leur faveur. || Les autorités Ottomanes ont toujours fait preuve dans la répression de ces menées séditieuses de la plus grande modération; mais en présence de la recrudescence de l'agitation, et afin de mieux déjouer les projets criminels des fauteurs de désordres, la Sublime Porte vient de transmettre aux Gouverneurs-Généraux des dites provinces Européennes les ordres les plus sévères à ce sujet. || Ainsi partout où des bandes d'agitateurs feront leur apparition, elles devront être poursuivies et dispersées avec la plus grande célérité, et les autorités Impériales devront veiller à ce que cette répression se fasse seulement par le moyen des troupes régulières et par la gendarmerie, sans que jamais et pour aucun motif la population ou des particuliers quelconques puissent y intervenir. || En un mot, le but principal poursuivi par les agitateurs Macédoniens étant d'exciter les Musulmans, par toutes sortes de provocations et de crimes,

et en leur occasionnant de graves dommages, à la vengeance, les autorités devront tenir strictement la main à ce que ceux-ci ne se laissent entraîner à aucunes représailles, et à s'en remettre entièrement au Gouvernement Impérial du soin de les protéger et de sauvegarder leurs intérêts. || Anthopoulo Pacha croit devoir ajouter qu'il est autorisé par le Ministère Impérial d'assurer au Gouvernement Britannique que la Sublime Porte usera de la plus grande vigilance pour que ces instructions soient strictement observées par qui de droit.

Ambassade Impériale de Turquie, Londres, le 21 Mars, 1902.

Nr. 12805. **TÜRKEI.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in London. Er wünscht Vorstellungen der Großmächte in Sofia.

Constantinople, le 22 Mars, 1902.
(Communicated by Anthopoulo Pasha, March 22.)

(Télégraphique.) || D'après les nouvelles informations qui nous proviennent, les officiers de l'armée de réserve de la principauté ont été informé qu'ils recevraient le 15 courant (v. s.) l'ordre de procéder à la mobilisation des réservistes, et les instructions nécessaires leur ont été données pour que cette mobilisation soit opérée dans l'espace de quarante-huit heures à partir de la réception du dit ordre. || En outre, les Anarchistes Bulgares font fabriquer des bombes à dynamite à Kustendil et à Dobnitza, et recrutent parmi les habitants de Djuma-i-Bala et de Petrich des affiliés pour renforcer les bandes de brigands qui doivent faire irruption dans ces parages. Un grand nombre de Bulgares habitant les villages de Pavoche, Lechka, Ligodache, Liche, et Dipotchintcha, dépendant du district de Djuma-i-Bala, se seraient même déjà ralliés aux brigands. De plus, les émissaires envoyés par ceux-ci auprès des habitants de Robova (Osmanié) ont, par l'entremise de ces derniers, transmis aux habitants des autres villages des instructions au sujet du mouvement organisé par les dits Comités, et ils ont procédé à la distribution des armes qu'ils ont réussi à introduire dans le Vilayet de Kossovo. Bien que les autorités Impériales ne cessent de prendre les dispositions nécessaires pour empêcher les menées de ces agitateurs et usent de la plus grande vigilance pour assurer le maintien de l'ordre et de la tranquillité dans ces parages, il serait néanmoins nécessaire de porter ce qui précède à la connaissance de M. le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères, afin de faire auprès du Gouvernement Bulgare des représentations en vue de faire cesser les agissements des Comités susmentionnés, conformément à ma précédente communication.

Nr. 12806. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Minister des Ausw. Militärische Vorbereitungen der Pforte.

Constantinople, March 19, 1902. (March 24.)

(Extract.) || Talking to the Minister of War yesterday, Ali Riza Pasha informed Mr. Block that he was about largely to increase the military forces in Macedonia. His Excellency said that at the present moment there were 7 divisions, each of 17 battalions; the battalions had, on the average, 500 men; these would be increased to 800, for whom everything was in store on the spot, thus raising the regular military forces from 59 500 to 95 000. Besides this increase he was calling out 2 divisions of „Ilave“ battalions, 16 battalions to the division, each battalion being about 600 men, equal to 19 200 men. One brigade of 8 battalions was being called out in the Adrianople district, and would be distributed at Kirdjah and Kirk Kilessi, amounting to about 4800 men.

Nr. 12807. GRIECHENLAND. — Denkschrift über den Terrorismus der bulgarischen Banden.

La situation vraiment intolérable que les Comités Bulgares parvinrent à créer pendant ces dernières années en Macédoine devient actuellement de plus en plus odieuse et menaçante. Des bandes Bulgares nombreuses organisées et équipées en Bulgarie et Roumélie-Orientale pénètrent dans cette province Ottomane et y sèment la terreur en y commettant des crimes atroces contre tous les citoyens paisibles, qu'elles considèrent comme un obstacle à leurs visées criminelles et subversives. || Les viols et les pillages, les meurtres et les assassinats, directement inspirés par les agents du Comité Bulgare en Macédoine, restés jusqu'à présent presque toujours impunis, augmentent de jour en jour. Il serait difficile, si non impossible, de citer tout au long tous les notables Musulmans assassinés par les membres du Comité; l'assassinat du Dr. Kyvernides à Guevguéli, l'attentat contre le Dr. Sakéllarios à Goumentza, le meurtre de plusieurs prêtres Grecs, surtout dans le district de Monastir, sont également suffisamment récents pour qu'ils aient besoin d'être expliqués. Mais il n'est pas inutile de donner ici une liste succincte de certains crimes commis tout dernièrement pour qu'on puisse se faire une idée du désordre et de la terreur qui dominent dans les provinces Macédoniennes. La malaise et la terreur dont souffre la Macédoine deviennent de plus en plus graves et menacent de créer un péril qu'on ne saurait

prévenir qu'en combattant le mal par des moyens rigoureuses, prompts, et efficaces: —

1. Le Major Mouktar Aga, ayant comme guide un indigène nommé Traïkos, s'est rendu, il y a trois mois, à la tête d'un détachement, à Conoblatti (Caza de Castorie), centre d'action important du Comité. Le soir même de son arrivée à la dite localité les agents du Comité, afin d'inspirer la terreur parmi les Chrétiens, massacrèrent le père du susdit Traïkos à Roulia, sise à quelques heures loin de la localité précitée. Mouktar Aga alla le lendemain à Roulia pour découvrir l'assassin, mais dès qu'il eût quitté le village, sans obtenir, du reste, un résultat quelconque, les assassins massacrèrent sur les lieux trois femmes dont l'une seule portait soixante-dix blessures. || Peu de temps après les mêmes agents attaquèrent en plein jour et au milieu du marché de Kaszieh (Castorie) le susnommé Traïkos, qu'ils tuèrent à coups de revolver. Ces faits constituent un des procédés habituels, au moyen desquels le Comité impose ses volontés, règle les différends qui pourraient exister entre deux villages, s'empare des écoles, punit les prêtres, vole, pille, et gouverne à son gré. || 2. Le 29 Janvier dernier (v. s.) quinze membres du Comité, armés, ayant à leur tête le renommé chef de bande Pétroff et le fugitif Professeur Chrouposti Cronzos entrèrent dans le village Cholista, rassemblèrent de force les habitants et les menaçant de mort, les forcèrent à jurer qu'ils laisseraient les quelques Bulgares Schismatiques officier dans l'église Grecque Orthodoxe. La terreur aidant, l'incident fut resté inconnu: ce n'est que plus tard que le prêtre Grec du village communiqua le fait à titre confidentiel à son autorité ecclésiastique. || 3. La même histoire s'est renouvelée au village Aposképo, sis à une demi-heure loin de Kesrieh. || 4. Dans le village Corténetzi les membres du Comité forcèrent à main armée les habitants à leur donner l'argent de l'église Grecque pour les besoins du Comité Bulgare. || 5. Le Comité Bulgare depuis bien longtemps a déclaré ouvertement la guerre contre les prêtres et les professeurs Grecs Orthodoxes de la Province de Kesrieh en les forçant par des menaces de mort à abandonner leurs places ou à embrasser le schisme. C'est ainsi qu'à Zomanitza les agents du Comité donnèrent un délai de vingt jours au prêtre Grec du village et au Professeur Argyri pour abandonner leurs postes; ils les menacèrent de mort dans le cas où ils dénonceraient aux autorités locales cette décision du Comité Suprême. Le prêtre du village fut ainsi forcé de quitter le pays. || 6. A Scambressi, il y a quelques jours, les membres du Comité renvoyèrent arbitrairement le prêtre Grec Orthodoxe. || 7. A Podjivisti, le professeur Grec, Papa Hélias, ayant continué dans l'école Grecque ses leçons, malgré les ordres

qui lui ont été donnés par le Comité Bulgare, fut invité sous peine de mort de se démettre de ses fonctions dans un délai de vingt jours. || 8. A Conoblatti, le prêtre Grec Orthodoxe, qui est en même temps professeur, a été forcé de même à abandonner sa place et à quitter le pays. || 9. A Aposképo, les partisans du Comité Bulgare intimèrent aux habitants Grecs l'ordre d'envoyer dorénavant leurs enfants à l'école Bulgare, les menaçant de mort en cas de désobéissance; c'est ainsi que le nommé Zissi s'est vu contraint de partir pour ne pas se soumettre aux ordres tyranniques du Comité. || 10. A Zagoritzani, l'inspecteur ecclésiastique et aussi prédicateur Orthodoxe Hélias, fut attaqué le 1er Janvier dernier (v. s.) en plein jour par les membres du Comité; il parvient pourtant à s'enfuir et se sauver la nuit dans un autre village Musulman, où il reçut l'hospitalité et put passer la nuit. Il dénonça le lendemain le fait à l'autorité locale, et, craignant la vengeance des bandes, partit pour la Thessalie. || 11. Au mois de Janvier, année courante, le Métropolitain Grec de Castorie (Kesrieh) fit sa tournée habituelle dans les villages du district de Kourestia, où siègent de préférence les chefs des bandes du Comité. Informées de ce fait, les bandes se mirent à parcourir les villages et à contraindre les habitants par tous les moyens possibles à se refuser de recevoir leur Métropolitain. Le Prélat a dû continuer sa tournée, escortée par un nombre suffisant de soldats, mais toujours sous le coup des menaces du Comité. Il trouva partout les habitants fidèles à leur foi et à leur nationalité Grecque, mais consternés et épuisés par les pillages et les souffrances endurés. Il est inutile ici de parler des églises Grecques que le Métropolitain trouva occupées de force par les schismatiques, avec le concours des bandes du Comité Bulgare. Ce qui est attristant, et digne sous tous les points de vue d'attirer l'attention sérieuse de qui de droit, c'est que dans plusieurs localités les autorités Ottomanes, terrifiées elles-mêmes ou bien corrompues par le Comité, ont été jusqu'à soutenir les organes du Comité dans la perpétration de leurs crimes et même à soustraire les coupables à l'action de la justice. L'élargissement, il y a deux mois, de trente-trois criminels Bulgares, détenus, a enhardi davantage les partisans du Comité et a contribué à aggraver considérablement la situation. || 12. Le 4 (17 Février dernier, quatre agents du Comité ont poignardé le Professeur Tzorbeff, habitant le village Mantzovinista (près de Perlépé) pour avoir osé critiquer et désapprouver dans ses entretiens avec les villageois la conduite du Comité et de ses partisans. || 13. Dans le village Sistovo, du district de Kesrieh, une bande de quatorze membres du Comité réfugié dans une maison de l'institutrice Bulgare, fut bloquée le 11 Février,

année courante, par un détachement militaire. Les rebelles ayant tenté une sortie, un engagement a eu lieu, à la suite duquel deux soldats, quatre hommes de la bande, l'institutrice elle-même ont été tués. Cette dernière avait encore en main son revolver. La plupart des habitants du village prirent la fuite avec les restes de la bande; les autres furent tous arrêtés et emprisonnés. || 14. A Doïran (district de Salonique) le Directeur de l'école Grecque et le Professeur Joannidès furent attaqués à coups de pierres le 18 Février, année courante, en plein jour, au milieu du marché, par les professeurs et les élèves de l'école Bulgare secondés par un certain nombre des partisans du Comité. Les professeurs Grecs parvinrent à se sauver des mains de leurs persécuteurs et affolés se réfugièrent dans un magasin tenu par un sujet Hellène; néanmoins, la populace effrénée continua pendant des heures entières à manifester et à crier que le jour de vengeance était proche. || Des scènes analogues eurent récemment lieu dans plusieurs autres localités dépendant de Salonique contrairement à la tranquillité relative qui y régnait jusqu'ici. Les populations Musulmanes et surtout celles du district de Kesrieh (Castorie) se trouvent sous l'empire d'une excitation d'esprit de plus en plus croissante. Les Turcs, voyant qu'en dehors des bandes régulièrement organisées, telles que celles des Chefs Markoff et Pétroff, les villageois Bulgares forment chaque jour des bandes locales passagères pour forcer leurs voisins à embrasser leurs idées subversives et commencent à former à leur tour des bandes de défense dont les plus connues sont actuellement celles de Resna et de Perlépé. A Monastir plusieurs Musulmans, réunis sous la présidence d'un certain Youssouf Effendi, sont en train de former des bandes de défense analogues. Les faits qui précèdent suffiront, semble-t-il, à donner une idée du désordre et de l'anarchie qui règnent actuellement en Macédoine et à prouver que le danger d'un mouvement plus considérable est imminent si l'on ne prend pas à temps des mesures rigoureuses et efficaces.

Le 4 (17) Mars, 1902.

Nr. 12808. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Bericht des Dragomans Pissurica in Monastir an den Konsul in Saloniki über die Unruhen im Vilajet Monastir.

Monastir, le 3 Mars, 1902.

(Extrait.) || J'ai l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance ce qui suit: — || Le 24 Février, au village Sistevo, à une heure et demie de Castorie, une bande Bulgare composée de quatorze personnes, s'était in-

stallée dans la maison de l'institutrice Bulgare du village et invitait les villageois pour le catéchisme aux idées du Comité. Le Hukumet, avisé, s'est empressé de cerner l'endroit. Les bandits, s'étant aperçus de l'approche des soldats, essayèrent de se retirer du village sortant par une ouverture secrète de la rétrofaçade de la maison. Il paraît que la bande était familière du village. La retraite eut lieu naturellement au milieu d'une fusillade des deux côtés. Quatre Bulgares ont été tués et l'institutrice aussi (dont la main morte portait encore le revolver); deux soldats sont tombés de l'autre côté. La plupart des habitants du village ont quitté leurs toits et suivit la bande; les restants ont été arrêtés. Il y a à noter maintenant que quand je dis „bande" il ne s'agit plus, comme toujours, des individus venus de Bulgarie et qui en ont formé quelques-unes en s'associant des gens du pays, comme la bande de Marco, Kotte, Milenco, &c., et circulant dans le village. A l'heure actuelle ce sont les habitants eux-mêmes de deux ou trois villages voisins qui forment les bandes en s'unissant en petites bandes et allant dans d'autres villages pour les catéchiser à la révolte, ou dans les villages du parti Grec pour les induire, par la persuasion ou par les menaces, à s'unir aux Bulgares. D'autrefois ils se mettent en guet-apens aux divers croisements des routes pour tuer les Turcs, avec lesquels ils ont des comptes ouverts. En ce moment, donc, on ne peut pas savoir combien de bandes il y a. Les villageois, se transformant journellement en bandits, augmentent, ce qui rend la position bien critique, surtout à l'égard des mesures probables de la part de la population Turque. A Resna (petite ville à cinq heures de Monastir), l'avant-dernière semaine, le nommé Tassi, commerçant du parti Grec, a été tué par erreur au lieu d'un autre Tassi, Bulgare des plus fanatiques. Sachant que le coup manqué du Comité Turc était destiné pour leur homme a eux en vengeance de trois Turcs Bektzis blessés par les Bulgares quelque temps avant, les Bulgares ont tiré en pleine rue de Resna contre le Vice-Président du Comité Turc; la balle a atteint son bras; des perquisitions suivirent en masse, et les autorités ont apporté ici une vingtaine de fusils Mannlicher et arrêté entre autres les trois maîtres d'école Bulgare de la dite ville. || Sur la route de Perlépé, Mardi passé, deux Turcs agas (petits rentiers) venant ici ont été tués par les Bulgares en guet-apens; un Juif se trouvait aussi dans la voiture. A ses cris et larmes les agresseurs l'ont laissé et l'ont chargé en rentrant à Monastir d'informer le Vali que c'est le Comité Bulgare qui tue les mauvais Turcs. Le Juif est venu ici et avisé le Hukumet, mais certes n'a pu osé répéter au Vali mot à mot les paroles dont il a été chargé de la part des assassins. Ce cas ajouté aux divers autres faits récents qui arrivent de

toute part du vilayet ont aussi excité les Turcs de notre ville, qui depuis quelques jours se réunissent pour fonder à leur tour un contre-Comité, à l'imitation des Turcs de Resna et Perlépé. Un avocat, nommé Yousouf Effendi, préside provisoirement à ces réunions. Où aboutira cette tendance, si les Turcs, de jour en jour provoqués et irrités, finissaient par adopter des mesures de nature néfaste? Il n'y a pas une seconde opinion sur l'état actuel des choses; nous couchons sur des volcans qui d'un jour à l'autre peuvent faire entendre une explosion plus au moins compliquée et désastreuse. Edib Pacha, quoique malade, développe une énergie remarquable. Soixante-douze villageois marchands, maîtres d'écoles, ont été amenés ici durant cette quinzaine; les prisons étant insuffisantes pour les recevoir, c'est la caserne militaire qui sert pour les arrêter. Pour le moment quelques autres mesures plus ou moins infructueuses ont été introduites; par exemple à partir de douze heures du soir à la Turque personne ne peut sortir d'une ville quelconque du vilayet pour voyage nocturne; dans les villes à partir de 1 heure du soir à la Turque jusqu'à minuit toute personne doit porter lanterne, après minuit même avec lanterne sera examinée par les patrouilles; on dit que le Gouverneur-Général a un programme plus sérieux sur l'état actuel et qu'il le mettra en vigueur sous peu.

Nr. 12809. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Wien an den Minister des Ausw. Österreich-Ungarn und Rußland glauben nicht an eine Förderung der Unruhen durch Bulgarien.

Vienna, March 27, 1902. (March 31.)

My Lord, || I have the honour to state that I learnt yesterday from Count Lützow that the Austro-Hungarian Government are disposed to believe that the Bulgarian Government are not giving any encouragement to the Macedonian conspirators. || His Excellency said that the Turkish Ambassador had come again to the Foreign Department yesterday with a fresh lot of instances of the insurrectionary spirit in the Balkan provinces, and with a fresh appeal to Count Goluchowski to bring pressure to bear on the Bulgarian Government. || Count Lützow said that the accounts from the Austro-Hungarian Consuls continued to give legitimate cause for anxiety, and that the danger of serious trouble breaking out was greater than it had been in previous springs. Nevertheless, he did not see that anything more could be done at Sophia than had already been done by the advice given there jointly by Austria-Hungary and Russia, and it

was now for the Turks themselves to take proper measures for quelling any riots that might arise, but to observe the prudence dictated by the paramount necessity of not outraging European public opinion, as had been done on other occasions. || I noticed that Count Lützow spoke with perfect confidence of the Russian Government as acting entirely in concert with that of Austria-Hungary for the prevention, as far as possible, of the complications which seem so threatening in the Balkan peninsula.

F. R. Plunkett.

Nr. 12810. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Belgrad. Trifft Serbien militärische Vorbereitungen?

Foreign Office, April 4, 1902.

(Telegraphic.) || My attention has been called by the Turkish Ambassador to preparations of a warlike nature which are taking place in Servia, in particular along the frontier of Turkey, where arms are being distributed and troops are collecting. || Please inform me if there is any foundation for the representations made by him.

Nr. 12811. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Belgrad.

Foreign Office, April 4, 1902.

Sir, || The Turkish Ambassador came to this Office to-day and stated that he had been instructed by his Government to call my special attention to the warlike preparations which they hear are being made in Servia, particularly along the Turkish frontier, where troops are collecting and arms are being distributed for no apparent reason. || His Excellency said that the Turkish Government are considerably disturbed by these proceedings, and hope that His Majesty's Government will take such steps as they consider advisable to check the apparently bellicose tendencies of the Servians. || I have telegraphed the substance of Anthopoulo Pasha's communication to His Majesty's Minister at Belgrade, and I have asked him what foundation there is for these representations.

Lansdowne.

Nr. 12812. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Serbien an den Minister des Ausw. Antwort auf 12810.

Sophia, April 5, 1902. (April 5.)

(Telegraphic.) || Your Lordship's telegram of yesterday. || No concentration of troops has as yet taken place on Turkish frontier; a rumour has, however, been current to the effect that a single battalion is about to be sent to Vranya. || With reference to the rumours relative to arms being distributed, it appears that the third ban of the Servian army are always permitted to have arms in their possession; now, however, the second ban has received arms, an unusual circumstance against which the Turkish Minister has made representations, in answer to which he informs me that satisfactory assurances have reached him. He has also had to protest against the sale of arms in frontier villages, which, being of an obsolete pattern, were offered at 5 fr. each. || In the opinion of the Turkish Minister the attitude of the Servian Government has been friendly, but he does not consider that sufficiently active measures have been taken to prevent insurgents from Macedonia passing through Servia. || In consequence of difficulties having arisen between Albanians and Turks, the position occupied by the Servian population in Old Servia is represented to me as being more favourable at the present time by comparison with recent years.

Nr. 12813. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Petersburg an den Minister des Ausw. Besuch des bulgarischen Ministers des Ausw. in Petersburg. Anschauung Lamsdorffs.

St. Petersburgh, April 2, 1902. (April 8.)

(Extract.) || I have the honour to report the arrival in this capital of the Bulgarian Prime Minister, M. Daneff, who has been received in audience by the Emperor, and had an interview with Count Lamsdorff. || There is a general impression that the Bulgarian Minister's visit to this Court is chiefly connected with the financial arrangements of that State, but no doubt advantage has also been taken of it by Count Lamsdorff to impress strongly on M. Daneff the serious responsibility which the Bulgarian Government would incur by any relaxation of its efforts to control and check the agitation of the Macedonian Committees. || Count Lamsdorff, at my last interview with him last week, adhered to his

opinion, that the danger of serious disturbances in that quarter was not at present greater than it had been at the corresponding season of past years, perhaps even not so great.

Nr. 12814. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Konstantinopel. Beschwerden des türkischen Botschafters über die Haltung Bulgariens; er fordert Vorstellungen in Sofia.

Foreign Office, April 9, 1902.

Sir, || The Turkish Ambassador spoke to me to-day with great earnestness upon the subject of the disorders prevailing in Bulgaria, and read me a despatch of which the following is a summary: — || In spite of the assurances of Bulgaria, given in consequence of the steps taken by the Great Powers, numerous bands of brigands have been formed in that country, and no measures are taken by the Government of the Principality to prevent their formation. Bulgarian officers, also with the full knowledge of the authorities, excite the population to attack the European provinces of Turkey. || Colonel Yankoff, for instance, who goes about making revolutionary speeches in various towns of the Principality, has held two meetings on two successive evenings in the Hall of the Committee at Widdin, when he urged the inhabitants to prepare for an attack on the Turkish provinces, to organize rifle shooting Societies, and to be instructed in military exercices in the presence of other officers. He has also distributed printed notices to the inhabitants of other towns, announcing his approaching arrival. || Notwithstanding these proceedings, the Ottoman Government, who are obliged to keep a large force to maintain public order and security, continue to recommend the inhabitants of their provinces to be patient and calm, in spite of the outrages which they suffer at the hands of the Bulgarian brigands. || Although the intimidation practised by the Bulgarian Committees is intended to corrupt a large number of peaceful and loyal persons, the Imperial Government, in a spirit of mercy and in accordance with the recommendations of the Powers, act with the greatest moderation, and do not resort to all the methods which the law prescribes. But this moderation, and the measures which the Turkish Government have taken can be of no avail so long as Bulgaria continues to persist in her present attitude. || On the other hand, the Imperial Government will suffer prejudice on account of the military measures which they are obliged to take and the pecuniary sacrifices which they are incurring, and it is certain that a continuation

of this state of things will produce a growth of revolutionary ideas among the population. || In these circumstances, it is obvious that the Bulgarian Government is, like all regular Governments, in duty bound to carry out their assurances, not verbally and in part, but effectively and in their entirety. || Otherwise, the Imperial Government should have a free hand to take proper measures to safeguard their rights, which are suffering great injury from the proceedings of the Revolutionary Committees and the acts of the bands which they are sending into the Turkish provinces. || His Excellency also informed me that the Turkish Minister at Bucharest had informed the Turkish Government that the Roumanian Government was extremely uneasy with regard to the progress of the Bulgarian agitation. They were under the impression that the agitators were likely to commit the worst outrages in order to provoke violent measures of repression, which would create a reaction in their favour. || Similar intelligence had been received by the Turkish Government from their Commissioners at Sophia and Monastir. || The Bulgarian Committees were collecting funds, distributing arms, and in some cases assassinating those who refused to join them. A small band of Bulgarian brigands had actually crossed the frontier near Adrianople, had seized three Mussulmans and a child, and had cut them to pieces in the most barbarous manner, afterwards making good their escape. A leading part was taken by a notorious character known as Jovan, of Scopia. There was no pretext that these crimes were committed for the sake of vengeance or robbery, and it was evident that they were political in their complexion. || His Excellency hoped that His Majesty's Government would make representations to the Bulgarian Government in order to induce them to put a stop to this dangerous state of things. He explained that similar representations had been made to the other Powers. || I replied that we should be quite ready to consider, in consultation with other Governments, whether there was any use in making representations such as he had suggested. I expressed my fear that it might be beyond the power of the Bulgarian Government to control the bands of whose lawlessness the complaint was made. || His Excellency replied that the Bulgarian Government might, at any rate, prevent officers in their own service from making incendiary speeches such as those which had been delivered by Colonel Yankoff, as described in the despatch which he had read to me.

Lansdowne.

Nr. 12815. TÜRKEI. — Der Botschafter in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Beschwerden über die bulgarischen Banden. England soll in Sofia Vorstellungen erheben.

(Received April 12.)

L'ambassadeur de Turquie présente ses compliments au Marquis de Lansdowne, et a l'honneur de porter à la connaissance de sa Seigneurie les renseignements suivants, qu'il vient de recevoir de son Gouvernement: — || Le Comité Bulgare a recruté quarante personnes moyennant un salaire de 2 fr. par jour, et après les avoir coiffés de Calpaks blancs, les a renvoyés pour franchir la ligne de démarcation du côté de Keustendil. Deux cents Bulgares se sont aussi rendus du côté de Doubnitza pour pénétrer de là dans les villages du district de Perlépé. En outre, 600 fusils du système Carnicaset, 18 caisses de cartouches provenant du dépôt d'armes de Keustendil, ont été remis à Ivankoff Frères pour être introduits dans la province voisine de l'Empire sous la direction du susdit Comité. || Sept brigands faisant partie de cette bande ont dernièrement pénétré dans le village d'Odikeuy, district de Perlépé, et se sont retranchés dans une tour. Informées de ce fait, les autorités Impériales envoyèrent sur les lieux un détachement composé de soldats et de gendarmes, sous les ordres d'un officier, et invitèrent, au nom de la loi, les brigands à se rendre. Ceux-ci ayant répondu par des coups de feu, un combat s'en suivit entre les assiégés et les assiégeants, qui réussirent le lendemain matin à se rendre maîtres de la situation; comme ils ont montré une résistance acharnée, le résultat en a été que tous les brigands sont tombés morts. Ils étaient armés de fusils Gras. On a en outre découvert sur eux des papiers séditieux écrits en langue Bulgare. || Tout en faisant part à sa Seigneurie de ce qui précède, Anthopoulus Pacha croit devoir attirer tout particulièrement son attention sur le fait que les armes en question ont été distribuées par le dépôt d'armes du Gouvernement Bulgare, et il espère qu'elle voudra bien intervenir auprès du Gouvernement Bulgare, afin qu'un terme soit mis à ces agissements, qui compromettent la Principauté.

Ambassade Impériale de Turquie, Londres, le 11 Avril, 1902.

Nr. 12816. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Minister des Ausw. an die Vertreter bei den Großmächten und an den Gesandten in Sofia. Sie sollen sich mit ihren Kollegen über Vorstellungen in Sofia verständigen.

Foreign Office, April 12, 1902.

(Telegraphic.) || On more than one occasion the Turkish Government has called our attention to the danger arising from the agitation, which

is said to be originated in Bulgaria, against Turkish rule in Macedonia. || They have recently called particular attention to the incendiary speeches delivered by Colonel Yankoff and others, and of the alleged distribution of arms from Bulgarian depôts. || I authorize you to join with your colleagues in impressing upon the Bulgarian Government the necessity of discouraging all such movements. || The Turkish Government has been constantly advised by us to exercise caution and moderation in repressing any disturbances that may arise, and it is incumbent on the Bulgarian Government on its side to avoid carefully any action or omission which can give legitimate cause for complaint on the part of the Porte.

Nr. 12817. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Wien an den Minister des Ausw. Anschauung Goluchowskis.

Vienna, April 10, 1902. (April 14.)

(Extract.) || When I saw Count Goluchowski yesterday at his weekly reception, I found his Excellency still disposed to hope that the local disturbances in Macedonia and Albania would be suppressed by the Turks without giving rise to any general outbreak of fanaticism. || At the same time his Excellency admitted that the situation was full of possible dangers, and that any sudden incident might lead to a conflagration. || The Austro-Hungarian Government continue to believe that the Bulgarian Government are honestly anxious to prevent an outbreak, but they doubt the power of that Government to resist the strong feeling which would be aroused in Bulgaria if the Macedonians should rise against the Mussulmans.

Nr. 12818. **TÜRKEI.** — Mitteilung des Botschafters in London über das Vorgehen der Insurgenten.

April 14, 1902.

Résumé de la communication télégraphique faite par le Ministre de l'Intérieur aux Gouverneurs-Généraux de Salonique, Monastir, Kossovo, et Andrinople d'après les instructions du Grand Vizir. || Pour empêcher la propagation des agissements des révolutionnaires Bulgares les Gouverneurs-Généraux ne doivent employer que des forces régulières et tous les soins doivent être scrupuleusement employés par eux pour maintenir la tranquillité. Dans le cas où un incident surviendrait, la plus grande énergie doit être déployée pour qu'il soit immédiatement apaisé par la force militaire et sans permettre à une seule personne de la population

de s'en mêler d'aucune façon; toutes les mesures doivent être prises pour qu'aucun conflit ne s'élève entre les sujets Ottomans, quels qu'ils soient, dans ces vilayets.

(1.)

D'après un rapport du Secrétaire du Commissariat Impérial Ottoman à Sophia en date du 22 Mars, 1902, il appert que Boris Sarafoff est rentré le 21 Mars à Philippopoli et a distribué des invitations au Comité Macédonien de cette ville en vue de tenir une réunion à 2 heures de l'après-midi afin d'y discuter une question très urgente. Sarafoff a pris part à cette réunion, et bien que le sujet des délibérations n'ait pas encore transpiré, étant donnée la rumeur qui circule à Philippopoli, qu'une bande Bulgare se prépare à franchir la frontière Ottomane, on croit que les délibérations en question ont eu pour objet de soutenir cette bande et de l'encourager à continuer ses efforts pour réussir à traverser la dite frontière.

(2.)

Communication de son Altesse le Grand Vizir à son Excellence le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères.

Constantinople, le 1er Avril, 1902.

A la succursale du Comité Macédonien à Sophia, sous la direction de Sarafoff, le nommé Pétroff, qui a commis plusieurs méfaits dans les provinces Ottomanes, a été inscrit au service du dit Comité. Cet individu, avec douze acolytes, doit se rendre de Dubindja à Juma et une autre bande d'agitateurs doit également se porter vers la même direction. Il a été entendu qu'aux Fêtes de Pâques les Comités Bulgares donneront le signal d'un soulèvement et qu'on commencera le mouvement à Perlépé, Repoulo, et Manlik, et que les résidences des Gouverneurs seront incendiées et les lignes télégraphiques détruites. || Le dit Comité de Sophia a envoyé aux autres Comités des communications portant que ceux qui partagent l'opinion de Sarafoff et qui sont en état de porter des armes, devront se réunir à Sophia pour exécuter les ordres susmentionnés.

(3.)

Sandaneski, Chef de brigands, qui a enlevé Miss Stone, et l'agitateur Velt, un Chef qui, avec une trentaine de bandits, a commis un grand nombre de méfaits en Macédoine, sont retournés dernièrement de Kustendil à Sophia et se prépareraient à enlever un des Consuls étrangers se trouvant dans les vilayets limitrophes.

(4.)

Communication du Ministre de la Guerre au Ministre des Affaires Étrangères.

Constantinople, le 2 Avril, 1902.

Le 22 Février dernier, pendant la nuit, entre les redoutes de Douzen et Kiz-Souyou, six Bulgares, ayant dépassé la ligne de démarcation de plus de 2000 mètres, ont été rencontrés par des soldats Ottomans, qui leur ont demandé de leur délivrer leurs armes. Les Bulgares ont d'abord fait feu sur les troupes et ensuite se sont enfuis. A cause de la nuit il fut impossible de les poursuivre, mais le lendemain, comme ils avaient laissé des traces sur la neige, il a été possible de découvrir que quatre d'entre eux étaient déjà partis pour la Roumélie-Orientale, tandis que les deux autres s'étaient dirigés sur la redoute de Douzen. || Les cartouches trouvées sur le lieu de la rencontre prouvent que les armes dont ces agitateurs se sont servis étaient des fusils Mannlicher et des Berdan, ce qui démontre que tout au moins quelques-uns appartenaient à l'armée Bulgare.

(5.)

Communication du Grand Vizir au Ministre des Affaires Étrangères.

Constantinople, le 2 Avril, 1902.

En réponse à votre communication en date du 14 Mars écoulé concernant la recommandation faite par les Ambassadeurs d'Angleterre et d'Autriche-Hongrie pour user de modération afin d'empêcher tout conflit entre les soldats Ottomans et les habitants de Merdita qui étaient cernés sur l'ordre du Gouverneur-Général pour avoir détruit les lignes télégraphiques entre Scutari et Monastir, des instructions avaient été données au dit Gouverneur-Général dans le sens désiré par ces deux Ambassadeurs. || En réponse le Gouverneur-Général vient de faire savoir qu'un certain nombre d'habitants de Merdita se sont rendus dans la direction de Letch et de Zadrima et ont commis des excès, tels que vols et autres actes de brigandage, et qu'ils ont rendu impraticable la route qui conduit à Panha et ont en outre coupé les fils télégraphiques dans cette localité. Bien que les autorités locales aient fait tout en leur pouvoir pour leur persuader de se désister, la modération employée vis-à-vis d'eux n'a eu d'autre résultat que de les encourager davantage dans leur attitude de menaces. On a donc été obligé de ne pas laisser un seul habitant de cette localité franchir le cordon de troupes jusqu'à ce qu'il se soit soumis, ce qui a amené un prompt réglement de cette affaire.

Ambassade Impériale de Turquie, Londres, le 14 Avril, 1902.

Nr. 12819. TÜRKEI. — Dasselbe.

April 16, 1902.

Renseignements émanés du Vali d'Andrinople.

Tout récemment des troupes Bulgares sur la frontière du Casa de Kirdja-Ali et environ 200 habitants armés ont franchi la frontière sous le prétexte de régler la démarcation de la ligne-frontière; mais leur intention réelle était de provoquer des conflits avec les habitants Musulmans. || En conséquence, ordre a été donné au Caïmacan de Kirdja-Ali et au Commandant de Place d'augmenter le nombre des troupes sur la frontière et dans les blockhouses. || Les habitants ont été avertis qu'ils ne devaient pas se mêler de ces sortes d'affaires. En même temps un officier de l'état-major a été envoyé sur les lieux pour faire une enquête sur l'incident susmentionné.

Renseignements émanés du Vali de Kossoro.

A la suite d'une entente entre les Comités Serbes et Bulgares, des bandes Bulgaro-Serbes ont l'intention de faire irruption dans les territoires Ottomans et de franchir la ligne de démarcation près de Percheva. En outre, le Chef bien connu Doncho serait à la tête d'une bande de quarante à cinquante hommes et parcourrait dans le Caza de Petrich, qui est limitrophe des Balkans, les villages suivants: Padich, Diboutitche, Lachka, Soutedjer, et Osmanié. Le recrutement des bandes Bulgares progresserait: quelques-unes mêmes traverseraient les marchés, avec les drapeaux à la main. Elles recevraient des encouragements de la part du public ainsi que du Gouvernement Princier. || Ces nouvelles ont été données par le Caïmacan de Reditchta, qui a été invité à prendre des mesures, ce dont le Gouverneur-Général de Salonique a été informé.

Nr. 12820. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Botschafter in Petersburg an den Minister des Ausw. Optimistische Auffassung Graf Lamsdorffs.

St. Petersburgh, April 15, 1902. (April 21.)

My Lord, || Count Lamsdorff continues to regard as exaggerated the apprehensions aroused by reports of agitation and impending disturbances in Macedonia, and he does not think the present situation there is as menacing as it has been in some other years at this season. || His Excellency told me that he had been confirmed in this view by his conversations with M. Daneff, who had satisfied him as to the loyal co-

operation of the Bulgarian Government in the maintenance of order and in the control of dangerous agitation in the Balkan States. || M. Daneff had apparently also confirmed Count Lamsdorff in his opinion that M. Sarafoff was at present entirely discredited with the Macedonian Committees, owing to the disclosure of his money peculations, and that his baneful influence was no longer to be much dreaded. || Count Lamsdorff said to me that he had been very favourably impressed by M. Daneff's broad, calm, and practical views. He seemed to regard his presence at the head of the Government in Bulgaria as of great advantage at the present moment. || Count Lamsdorff also told me that it had been settled that Prince Ferdinand should pay a visit to the Russian Court at the end of May, immediately after M. Loubet's visit. || His Royal Highness had proposed this visit last year, being anxious to show the Emperor the plans for the monument to be erected in Sophia to the memory of the Emperor Alexander II, but it had been difficult to arrange an earlier date for this visit. Charles S. Scott.

Nr. 12821. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. Die bulgarische Regierung leugnet jede Unterstützung der Insurgenten.

Sophia, April 18, 1902. (April 21.)

My Lord, || On the 16th instant I had the honour to receive your Lordship's despatch of the 12th, inclosing copy of a note from the Turkish Ambassador, dated the 11th April, relative to the alleged distribution of arms from the Bulgarian Government depôt at Küstendil for introduction into the neighbouring province of the Empire. || I immediately sent a copy of the note privately to M. Ludskanoff, the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, saying I was not instructed to communicate it to him, but that I did so in order that he might know what was being said, and have the opportunity of contradicting it if it was not true, or of taking the necessary action if it was. || The following communiqué has since been published by the Bulgarian Telegraphic Agency, whose offices are in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs: —

„Mendacious and designing reports of the activity of the Macedonian Committee and its relations with the Bulgarian Government have lately been circulated from Turkish sources with great assiduity. Thus, for example, it has been announced that a number of rifles of the ‚Carnicaset' model have been distributed to the Macedonians out of the depôts of arms, although rifles of that model do not exist in Bulgaria. Another

report states that a band which was shot down by the Turks was armed with Gras rifles, although it is well known that not Bulgaria, but Greece, is armed with those weapons. The groundlessness of these assertions is best shown by the following facts: The pursuit and arrest of those agents of the Macedonian Committee who have been guilty of improper proceedings; the warning addressed by the Government to the Supreme Macedonian Committee in Sophia that it will be dissolved if it lays itself open to suspicion of such proceedings; the prohibition of the sale of arms in all places adjoining the Turkish frontier; the confiscation of a great number of arms in the district of Sophia by the Mayor of the capital. In the face of these facts it requires great audacity still to assert that the Bulgarian Government distributes rifles from its depôts to the Macedonian bands." F. Elliot.

Nr. 12822. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Bericht des Generalkonsuls in Saloniki an den Botschafter in Konstantinopel über die Lage im Vilajet Saloniki.

Salonica, April 11, 1902.

Sir, || I consider it most important to give some general details with regard to the real situation in the vilayet under my consular jurisdiction, which all papers describe as exceptionally precarious. || There is no doubt that the Bulgarian population of certain villages has had in some cases, to submit to ill-treatment and violence at the hands of the Turkish authorities. But in all such cases it was in consequence of the Bulgarian peasants harbouring, or siding with, the bands, either of their own free will or as the only means of saving their lives. || The only instance worth reporting which has been brought to my notice for some time are details related to me at the beginning of December as coming from two priests and three women connected with the expedition of the Kaïmakam of Vodena to the village of Sborsko in September. The women said they had been violated by the native Moslems accompanying the Governor, and the priests, one of whom still suffered from a swollen foot, that it was the result of the treatment to which he had been subjected. || They further stated that many of the peasants had been similarly treated, and that the Kaïmakam had extorted about 500 l. from them, &c. I communicated this information to Tewfik Bey, who ordered an immediate inquiry. Nothing could be proved against the subordinate authorities, but as a consequence of the Vali's prompt action, no subsequent complaints of a similar nature have come in from that or

any other quarter. || About the same time, the Bulgarians complained to me that the notorious Turkish brigand Kiazim had, at a few hours' distance from Salonica, waylaid and plundered Bulgarian peasants returning to their villages in Kilkish, wounding nine of them. I again communicated with the Vali, who took fresh measures, and not long after, Kiazim's body was found in the bed of a river, without any clue being ever obtained as to how he came by his death. But whatever the cause of his death, I have since heard of no complaints about Turkish brigandage, and from that date to the beginning of this month, i. e., for four months, I have received no complaints whatever on the part of Bulgarians, who, as a rule, do not fail to come to me with an account of their grievances. || The insecurity, which exists now to a certain extent, is caused by just those people who complain most of it. In fact, besides the permanent and inherent defects of the Turkish Administration, there is nothing at this moment to justify the anxiety manifested in the press so far as the Turkish population is concerned, Rayahs on the whole being left unmolested. But Bulgarian bands, which had for a time interrupted their murders, have begun again to assassinate Christians of other races, as well as Moslems. Hitherto neither of these parties has retaliated on a scale worthy of notice, but their position is becoming very precarious, and the Greeks, Servians, and Vlachs, as well as Moslems, are complaining in emphatic terms of the proceedings of the Bulgarian bands and of the consequent behaviour of the Bulgarian population. || I think that the most efficient way of giving a complete and impartial idea of the present grounds of complaint of the Bulgarians is to report the cases, together with the dates at which they were related, in the very words in which the Bulgarians themselves narrated them to me.

April 4. — Seven women from Lower Poroïa appeared before the Vali and complained that about twenty men and two women from their village had, two months ago, been transported to Demir-Hissar, the seat of the Government, and detained there, without, however, being imprisoned, in consequence of a certain Alexis, a native of their village, having taken the leadership of a band, and that about seventy of the inhabitants of the village, frightened by this measure, had fled in different directions. They admitted that the two women were Alexis' wife and mother, and that the twenty men were all more or less related to him. The Vali told me that the men and women had all been allowed home before the deputation of seven women had applied to him. || Mr. Acting Vice-Consul Theodorides replied on the 10th instant to my request for information that, in consequence of a denunciation, the Kaïmakam of

Demir-Hissar went to Poroïa and ascertained for certain that Alexis, who was at the head of a Bulgarian band, was in constant touch with his relations and friends, to the number of about twelve, who provided him with victuals. The Kaïmakam, therefore, conveyed them to Demir-Hissar, until some decision had been arrived at concerning them. Mr. Theodorides adds that the statement that seventy peasants, frightened by this measure, had fled in all directions is entirely without foundation. || April 4. — Three Bulgarian peasants having disappeared under suspicious circumstances from Ghevgheli, the authorities, notified by the relatives, arrested some thirty-three Bulgarians three weeks ago on suspicion, of whom thirty from Ghevgheli and two or three from neighbouring villages. Their relatives complain that they have not yet been tried. The Vali, who at my requests asked for explanations from Ghevgheli, has not yet received an answer. || April 4. — In consequence of the murder at Doïran of a Serbophile Greek, about thirty Bulgarians were arrested to give evidence; of these, three, imprisoned on suspicion, were innocent. The murder took place on the 30th March, and at the time when complaint was made to me — the morning of the 4th instant — the prisoners had already been released, with the exception of three, who, with five others, are supposed to have committed the crime. The facts of the case are these: A certain Patrioti, a Greek by origin, but in the Servian service as a kind of school-inspector in the Caza of Doïran, enjoyed a degree of influence which made him obnoxious to the Bulgarian Committees. An ineffectual attempt was made to murder him last year. On the 30th ultimo, however, at 6 P. M., he was surrounded in the market place of Doïran by eight Bulgarians, who gagged and pinioned him, stabbed him nine times in the back, and then nearly severed his head from his body. The Turkish authorities arrested thirty of the inhabitants living in the vicinity of the scene of the crime, and held an inquiry, when, as already stated, only three suspects were detained in prison. || The Greek and Servian Consulates expressed themselves in the strongest terms on this crime, and I learn that the impression produced at Doïran is such that Christians (Bulgarians excepted) and Moslems close the doors of their houses at sunset. Thus the methods employed by the Macedonian Committees are developing into terrorism of all the races in this district, including even a considerable number of Bulgarians themselves. || April 11. — Four women from the village of Novo Selo, Caza of Strumnitza, came to complain that about thirty of their fellow villagers, including their husbands, were being kept in the prisons of Salonica without trial, during which time three

of them had died. || There is no doubt that prisoners are frequently kept a long time awaiting their trial, but, on the one hand, cases have often to be postponed owing to the contradictory statements made by witnesses from one day to the other, which entails a delay necessary to the determining of the truth; and also, on the other, owing to the press of work at the Courts. || Since the arrival, however, of Hakki Bey, the new Procureur-Général, a Cretan who has had experience of political trials in his native island, cases have been proceeded with with an expedition hitherto unknown, which has satisfied even the Bulgarians. Of the 139 prisoners who, according to memorandums received here from Bulgarians at the end of November, were brought down from Stroumintza, 6 were sentenced to five years' hard labour, and only 32 are still awaiting their trial. || I shall abstain from comment on the other complaints preferred by the Bulgarians. The facts in these cases speak for themselves. || These, then — and no other — are the instances of disorder in this vilayet, which are represented in the press as endangering the security of European Turkey, as they undoubtedly tend to do; but the authors of the disorders are neither Moslems nor any Rayahs, but the Bulgarian brigand bands and the population they influence. || The present agitation in the vilayets under my jurisdiction is, so far as the Macedonian Committees are concerned, temporary and not likely to succeed any better later on if it should fail now, as is probable, unless the subordinate Turkish authorities commit some great blunder. But the disappearance of the bands will not do away with the permanent injustice, corruption, and maladministration, arising chiefly from the state of the finances, which leaves a free field to political intrigues. || Without touching on other reforms, the regular payment of the official salaries, police, and gendarmes' pay, &c., would do away with more than two-thirds of the present abuses. Alfred Biliotti.

Nr. 12823. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den türkischen Botschafter in London. Antwort auf Nr. 12818 und 12819.

Despatches have been received from His Majesty's Agent and Consul-General at Sophia, which contain information in regard to some of the matters mentioned verbally by the Turkish Ambassador to Lord Lansdowne on the 9th instant, or referred to in his Excellency's note of the 11th instant. || The Bulgarian Telegraphic Agency at Sophia recently published a communiqué stating that there is no foundation for the report that rifles of the

Carnicaset model have been distributed to the Macedonians out of the Government depôt at Kustendil, or for the report that Bulgarian brigands, who were shot by the Turkish troops, were found to be armed with Gras rifles. It is pointed out that rifles of these two models are not used by the Bulgarian army. The communiqué declares that the groundlessness of such reports is shown by the following facts: the pursuit and arrest of those agents of the Macedonian Committee who have been guilty of improper proceedings; the warning addressed by the Government to the Supreme Macedonian Committee at Sophia that it will be dissolved if it lays itself open to suspicion of such proceedings; the prohibition of the sale in arms in all places adjoining the Turkish frontier; and the confiscation of a great number of arms by the Mayor of Sophia. || M. Ludskanoff, the Bulgarian Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, assured Mr. Elliot in conversation that his Government would certainly carry out their threat to dissolve the Macedonian Committee if it in any way transgressed the bounds of legality. || Mr. Elliot having alluded to the proceedings of Colonel Yankoff, M. Ludskanoff stated that he belonged to the Reserve; that some of his speeches of which complaint was made appeared to have been delivered at private meetings, and that they could, therefore, not be prevented; but that if they held any incendiary language at a public meeting he would at once be arrested. || On the 19th instant a further communiqué was published by the Bulgarian Telegraphic Agency, stating that the Bulgarian Commercial Agents in Turkey had been instructed by Circular to urge the Bulgarian population to remain quiet. The communiqué added, however, that in sending copies of this Circular to the Bulgarian Diplomatic Agents, the Government had instructed them to point out to the Powers that its endeavours to preserve the tranquillity of the Balkan Peninsula would be ineffectual until measures were taken to improve the situation in Turkey.

Foreign Office, April 30, 1902.

Nr. 12824. **TÜRKEI.** — Der Botschafter in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Beschwerden über das mazedonische Komitee.

Communication de son Altesse le Grand Vizir au Haridjié, le 7 Mai, 1902.

Le Haut Commissaire Impérial fait savoir que les mesures récemment prises par le Gouvernement Bulgare contre les agitateurs ayant affecté plus que tout autre moyen Savaroff et son parti, ceux-ci ont résolu de convoquer un Congrès pour fusionner les différents Comités, et dans ce

but ont envoyé des émissaires à Tornavo, Philibé, Varna, et Sophia. Cette nouvelle est confirmée par l'un des journaux paraissant en Bulgarie. || Bien qu'il ignore jusqu'à quel point des résolutions prises par les Comités de Sophia pourraient réussir et jusqu'à quelle limite le Gouvernement Bulgare les laisserait agir dans le cas où ce Congrès serait décidé, il ne manquera pas de prendre toutes les mesures pour en empêcher la réunion. Il ajoute que les Comités sont très actifs en ce moment pour répandre leur propagande néfaste. Dans ces circonstances le Grand Vizir invite le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères à communiquer cet état de choses aux Puissances.

Communication du Ministre de l'Intérieur au Ministre des Affaires Étrangères, le 12 Mai, 1902.

Des bandes du Comité Bulgare fréquentent les villages habités par les Chrétiens pour faire de la propagande et elles n'hésitent pas à tuer les personnes qui s'opposent à leurs agissements néfastes. || Dans le Vilayet de Monastir ces bandes ont parmi les personnes qui refusaient de leur donner de l'argent tué deux habitants et aussi le fils du guide du Capitaine Mukhtar, qui était aux environs du village à garder ses moutons. Ce malheureux fut pris, entraîné jusqu'à la porte de sa propre maison, où il a été égorgé; son frère a été également mis à mort par un des rebelles que le sort avait désigné pour ce meurtre.

Communication du Ministre de l'Intérieur au Haridjié le 14 Mai, 1902.

Les nommés Cambir et Sherif appartenant au village d'Isnova, district de Radovitza, qui allaient voir leurs enfants à Djuma-Bala, ont été rencontrés pendant la nuit par une trentaine de Bulgares près des Balkans de Karagouslé. On leur a lié les mains et ils ont été emmenés aux Balkans de Sarigouslé. Là Sherif a été mis à mort et Cambir grièvement blessé. Ce fait ayant été porté à la connaissance des autorités Impériales par le blessé, on a envoyé immédiatement un détachement de soldats et on a pris d'autres mesures pour s'emparer des coupables.

Londres, le 4 Juin, 1902.

Nr. 12825. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. Bemerkungen zu den türkischen Beschwerden.

Sophia, June 16, 1902. (June 23.)

(Extract.) || I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch of the 7th instant, transmitting to me copies of two

Memoranda communicated to you by the Turkish Ambassador in regard to the proceedings of the Macedonian Committees in Bulgaria and of their emissaries in the Turkish provinces, and instructing me to furnish my observations on the statements made in them, and on the request of the Porte that the Great Powers should press the Bulgarian Government to dissolve the Macedonian Committee. || The first Memorandum contains, in the first place, a communication from the Grand Vizier to the Turkish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, dated the 7th May, and relating to the efforts of Sarafoff's party to „convoquer un Congrès pour fusionner les différents Comités". This, no doubt, refers to the attempt, the failure of which I had the honour to report in my despatch of the 28th May, to hold a meeting of representatives of Macedonian Societies for the purpose of bringing about the resignation of the present Committee and the election of a fresh one. || It is not clear whether the expression „fusionner les différents Comités" means „to bring the different local Societies an their managing Committees into agreement", or „to bring about the absorption of the present Central Committee by the old one". The object is the same in either case — the re-establishment of the influence of Sarafoff and his party — and it has failed for the present. The attempt is to be renewed at the meeting of the ordinary Macedonian Congress in July, when I understand it will be met by the exposure of Sarafoff's peculations to the amount of some 150 000 fr. It is possible, however, that the meeting of the Congress will be postponed. || The statement in the same communication that „les Comités sont très actifs en ce moment" is, I think, exaggerated, whether it refers to the Central Committee, to Sarafaff's organization, or to the local Societies. || The first Memorandum continues with two communications from the Turkish Minister of the Interior to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, which only shows — what is a matter of common knowledge — that brigand or insurgent bands are active in Macedonia, and that the authorities are unable to capture or disperse them. The statement that these bands do not hesitate to kill other Christians who are not of their way of thinking, is undoubtedly true, and the fact is the direct consequence of the dissensions in the Councils of the Macedonian Societies. It can hardly be wholly distasteful to the Turkish Government. || A recent number of the „Pravo", a new Macedonian paper published at Sophia, describes how a band of some 150 men under one Doncho, an emissary of Mikhailovski's Committee (not the man of the same name concerned in the abduction of Miss Stone), is operating in the neighbourhood of the Vardar, sometimes engaged with the Turkish troops, and sometimes with the bands employed

by the „organisation intérieure", whose whereabouts Doncho even denounces to the Turkish authorities. || The second Memorandum communicated to your Lordship by the Turkish Ambassador, and dated the 4th June, suggests that the Great Powers should press the Bulgarian Government to dissolve the (Central) Macedonian Committee. Upon this point I have the honour to observe that the reply of the Bulgarian Government to any demand of that nature would be that the Committee is a lawfully constituted body which it is impossible to dissolve so long as it does not transgress the limits of legality. I beg leave to add that its dissolution if it were possible, would, in my opinion, do more harm than good even from the point of view of the Turkish Government. The consequence of it would be that the Committee would become a secret body, whose operations would be less easily controlled than they are at present. The separation of Sarafoff's party from the official Committee has not made their action any less dangerous to the cause of order. || The Italian Agent (the only one who has yet received from his Government this communication of the Turkish Ambassador) and the Austro-Hungarian Agent have already reported upon it to their Governments in the above sense. The German Consul-General and the French and Russian Acting Agents appear to be of the same opinion. || I have the honour to add that in my opinion it is impossible to ask a Bulgarian Government to suppress all expression of sympathy with the populations of Macedonia, such as finds vent in the support of the Macedonian Societies in the Principality, and that any Government which attempted it would be very short-lived. It is the duty of the Government, of which, no doubt, they frequently require to be reminded by the foreign Agents, to see to it, that legitimate and peaceful agitation is not distorted into criminal action.

Nr. 12826. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. Hat Vorstellungen gegen die mazedonische Agitation erhoben.

Sophia, July 16, 1902. (July 21.)

My Lord, || My attention having been called to an article in the „Reformi", the organ of the Macedonian Committee, declaring that the system of small bands has proved a failure, and that the only thing that remains to be done is to raise a general insurrection, and calling upon all patriots on both sides of the border to unite for the purpose, I went yesterday morning to the Bulgarian Foreign Office and, not finding the Minister, spoke to the Secretary-General about it. I said I had heard

that the Committee had received a warning from the Chief of the Police to restain their language and their actions, but it appeared to me that something more than a warning was required to meet the case of such an article as that of the „Reformi", and that the responsibility of the Government was gravely involved by the escape of Colonel Yankoff, who was, by way of being watched across the frontier (as reported in my preceding despatch), and by the existence at Kustendil of the principal depôt of arms and ammunition, destined for Macedonian revolutionary work. || The Secretary-General professed complete ignorance, but said he would mention what I had said to the Minister. Later in the day he brought me a message from his Excellency to the effect that, on account of the article in the „Reformi", and of other proceedings on their part, the Committee had been warned that they ran the risk of being suppressed, and of having those of their number who are Macedonians, and not Bulgarian subjects, expelled the country. || I shall return to the subject the first time I see the Minister. F. Elliot.

Nr. 12827. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Minister des Ausw. Der österreichisch-ungarische und russische Botschafter haben gemeinsam Vorstellungen bei der Pforte erhoben.

Therapia, July 23, 1902. (July 28.)

My Lord, || I was not surprised to learn a few days ago that the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador had been making serious representations to the Sublime Porte with a view to arousing the latter to a more lively sense of the dangerous course which events seem to have been taking for some time past in Macedonia. || Mr. Block was informed, confidentially, at the Sublime Porte, that both Baron de Calice and M. Zinovieff, the Russian Ambassador, had insisted in an interview with the Grand Vizier and the Foreign Minister on something being done to prevent the Macedonian question assuming a more threatening aspect. The matter was accordingly thrashed out in a series of conferences between the Grand Vizier, the Foreign Minister, and the Minister of the Interior, and a Report to the Palace drawn up urging that special instructions might be at once sent to the Valis in the Macedonian and Albanian provinces. The nature of these instructions, which had received the Sultan's approval, Mr. Block did not apprehend very clearly; but he gathered that greater powers than they had hitherto enjoyed are to be given to the Valis, and that it is intended that they shall be consulted in future in the appoint-

ment and dismissal of officials, and take all necessary and urgent measures for the preservation of order, without referring every point, as they now do, to the Palace. || M. de Calice has since admitted to me the general accuracy of this information, except that he was not aware of the precise decision come to by the consulting Ministers. He told me that he had confined himself to pointing out the danger, and that he had not recommended any particular line of action. His Excellency appeared satisfied on the whole with the alleged result of his representations, in which he did not say that the Russian Ambassador had joined. It was something to have got the Sublime Porte to move in the matter, and if a beginning had really been made it would be easier in future to urge the adoption of further measures. || Since writing the above I have been informed by the Grand Vizier that, in addition to the instructions already sent to the Valis, of which he gave me no details, he had agreed with the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and the Interior to recommend to the Council of Ministers the adoption of a series of reforms in Macedonia and Albania, in order to place on a better footing the system of public instruction, agriculture, and commerce and trade in those regions, and to afford the inhabitants a better guarantee that the public peace and security will be maintained. The nature of these reforms, if accepted by the Council, would depend on the Report of a Technical Commission which it was intended to dispatch to the provinces in question.

M. de Bunsen.

Nr. 12828. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Minister des Ausw. Bericht über die geplanten Reformen in Mazedonien.

Therapia, August 11, 1902. (August 18.)

My Lord, || Little, if any, progress appears to have been made with the projected reforms for Macedonia, as recommended by the Special Commission of Ministers, presided over by the Grand Vizier. The Austro-Hungarian Ambassador tells me that the Council of Ministers issued a Report in favour of the proposals of the Special Commission, which, as already reported in my despatch of the 23rd ultimo, were intended to effect improvements in the field of public instruction, trade, commerce, agriculture, the administration of Justice, and the maintenance of order and security. It was also recommended that larger powers of initiative should be given to the provincial Governors, obviating constant reference to the Sublime Porte in an emergency. Baron de Calice hears that the

Sultan is not at all disposed to agree on this latter point, and that the proposal for a reorganization of the gendarmerie, which is now so largely made up of irregulars, has also been rejected by His Imperial Majesty. Nor has anything more been heard of the local Commissions, which the Grand Vizier told me it was intended to appoint in order to obtain full information on the requirements of the various districts in the disturbed region. || Baron de Calice still thinks, however, that some good has been done by directing the attention of the Ottoman Government to the dangers of the present situation. M. de Bunsen.

Nr. 12829. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der türkische Geschäftsträger in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Fordert energische Schritte in Sofia.

(Received August 30.)

Le Chargé d'Affaires de Turquie présente ses compliments au Marquis de Lansdowne, et, se référant aux précédentes communications de cette Ambassade au sujet des agissements des Comités Bulgares Révolutionnaires, a l'honneur de porter à la haute connaissance de sa Seigneurie que la Sublime Porte a appris par le Commissaire Impérial à Sophia que toutes ses démarches auprès du Gouvernement Bulgare pour obtenir la dissolution des dits Comités sont restées infructueuses, et que le Gouvernement Princier a déclaré qu'il ne pouvait pas empêcher leurs réunions. || Hamid Bey, conformément aux instructions de son Gouvernement, s'empresse d'attirer l'attention toute particulière de sa Seigneurie sur l'indispensable nécessité d'insister énergiquement auprès du Gouvernement Bulgare pour qu'il procède sans retard à la dissolution des Comités dont il s'agit, attendu que c'est l'unique moyen d'assurer dans la Péninsule Balkanique le maintien de l'ordre et de la sécurité publique tant désiré par les Puissances.

Ambassade Impériale de Turquie, Londres, le 30 Août, 1902.

Nr. 12830. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Minister des Ausw. Reformpläne.

Constantinople, August 26, 1902. (September 1.)

My Lord, || In my despatch of the 23rd ultimo, I mentioned that it was the intention of the Porte to appoint a Technical Commission to study and report on the condition of public instruction, agriculture, and commerce in Macedonia, with a view to the institution of reforms. ||

The Turkish press now announces that this Commission is to be constituted at once, and will leave for the scene of its investigations with the least possible delay. || An Imperial Iradé recommends the exercise of great judgment in the selection of experienced persons to serve on the Commission, which will be composed of delegates from the Ministries of Public Works and Commerce, Agriculture and Mines, Evkaf, Public Instruction, Interior, Justice, Police. M. de Bunsen.

Nr. 12831. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Minister des Ausw. Besorgt Unruhen aus Anlaß der Schipkafeier.

Therapia, September 16, 1902. (September 22.)

My Lord, || After receipt of your Lordship's telegram of the 12th instant, I made inquiries of the French and Italian Embassies as to whether they had information confirming the reports received by the Greek Government respecting impending trouble in the Monastir district of the Balkan Peninsula. || I ascertained that the recent reports of the French and Italian Consuls at Monastir did not bear out those of the Greek Government, but, on the contrary, rather tended to show that there was, perhaps, a slight improvement in the general political situation owing to the energy and firmness of the Vali, who seems to be succesful in maintaining a relative degree of public order without allowing legitimate repression to degenerate into crime and outrages. || It is not unnatural, however, that the Greeks, who suffer severely at the hands of the Bulgarian Committees, should be apt to exaggerate their fears and to communicate them to their Government in the hope that representations at Sophia may do something to alleviate their sufferings. || The patriotic Russo-Bulgarian demonstrations at Shipka, which are announced to take place towards the end of this month, seem, moreover, eminently calculated to arouse Bulgarian feeling almost to fever heat in favour of their suffering brothers and coreligionists across the frontier. It is unlikely that the Revolutionary Committees will lose such an opportunity of provoking disturbances if they think they can turn this popular excitement in their favour. || On this ground I believe the Shipka demonstrations and festivities may be regarded with some anxiety. They are certainly disturbing the Ottoman Government very considerably.

N. R. O'Conor.

Nr. 12832. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Derselbe an Denselben. Exzesse der Albanesen.

Constantinople, September 20, 1902. (September 20.)

(Telegraphic.) ‖ I have received a telegram, dated this morning, from the Acting Vice-Consul at Uskub, reporting that the railway and telegraph lines between Mitrovitza and Uskub were cut last night by Albanians. The railway line has been repaired, traffic only being four hours delayed. ‖ Mr. Shipley adds that Hamdi Pasha leaves for Constantinople to-day, and that it is said that he has been definitely recalled.

Nr. 12833. TÜRKEI. — Iradé über administrative und gerichtliche Reformen.

Une Commission Technique sera envoyée dans les vilayets de Salonique, Kossovo, et Monastir, avec mission de déterminer les institutions qu'il y aurait lieu d'établir pour donner un nouvel essor aux travaux d'utilité publique et pour assurer la prospérité du pays et l'extension de l'agriculture d'inspecter les ponts et chaussées qui seront construits, développer la situation commerciale et économique tant dans l'intérieur que sur le littoral des dits vilayets et de faciliter le service de navigation dans ces parages. ‖ Un ingénieur hydrographe et un employé du Ministère des Finances chargés, le premier d'étudier les travaux d'irrigations fluviales à exécuter, et le second, de veiller à la perception des impôts, feront partie de la dite Commission. De nouvelles écoles primaires et secondaires seront créées dans les vilayets précités et il sera procédé à l'organisation des Tribunaux et de la gendarmerie. ‖ Les personnes qui se livreraient à des agissements dans le but de troubler l'ordre et la tranquillité publics sans tenir compte des recommandations qui leur seraient faites par les autorités Impériales et dont les actes entraîneraient, d'après la loi, leur responsabilité, seront provisoirement éloignées du pays en vue de leur amendement moral. ‖ Dans le cas où les Valis jugeraient nécessaire de requérir l'assistance des forces armées, ils aviseront d'urgence à qui de droit, conformément aux instructions qu'ils recevront du Gouvernement Impérial, auquel ils auront à se référer préalablement par le télégraphe. ‖ La Sublime Porte a muni les Gouverneurs-Généraux des vilayets susmentionnés d'ordres en conséquence et leur a recommandé d'une façon instante de mettre sans retard à exécution les mesures dont il s'agit. Les Valis ont été invités en même temps à

créer des Tribunaux dans les localités où l'existence de pareilles institutions est nécessaire, afin que ces Tribunaux procèdent, conformément aux prescriptions de la loi, au jugement des criminels et déterminent les peines que ceux-ci auraient encourues. Ils auront à faire remettre à la justice ceux des dits criminels qui refuseraient de comparaître devant la juridiction compétente et à adopter, conformément aux hautes intentions de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, des dispositions propres à mettre toutes les classes de la population à l'abri de procédés vexatoires de toutes sortes.

Nr. 12834. **TÜRKEI.** — Der Geschäftsträger in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Die bulgarische Regierung ist im Einverständnis mit den Banden

(Received September 30.)

Le Chargé d'Affaires de Turquie présente ses compliments au Marquis de Lansdowne, et pour se conformer aux instructions qu'il a reçues de son Gouvernement, a l'honneur de porter à la haute connaissance de sa Seigneurie que Sarafoff, Chef du Comité Révolutionnaire Bulgare, étant arrivé dernièrement à Nisch, a été arrêté en cette ville et conduit sous escorte à Belgrade. Les papiers qui ont été saisis sur lui ont établi qu'il est en rapports suivis avec le Ministre de la Guerre Bulgare, et que les poursuites qui ont été dirigées par le Gouvernement Princier contre le Comité précité sont illusoires. || Hamid Bey a pour devoir d'ajouter que les officiers de la milice Bulgare qui ayant quitté le service se sont affiliés aux Comités Révolutionnaires, ont prêté serment dans le Monastère de Rilo, en Bulgarie.

Ambassade Impériale de Turquie, Londres, le 29 Septembre, 1902.

Nr. 12835. **TÜRKEI.** — Derselbe an Denselben. Die Bulgaren ermorden Muhammedaner und Griechen.

(Received October 8.)

Le Chargé d'Affaires de Turquie présente ses compliments au Marquis de Lansdowne et a l'honneur d'informer sa Seigneurie qu'il est chargé par son Gouvernement de lui faire savoir que d'après des communications du Gouverneur-Général du vilayet de Monastir relativement aux bandes de brigands Bulgares, qui ont fait leur apparition dans certaines localités de cette province, les Comités Révolutionnaires ont, en exécution de leur programme subversif, donné des instructions aux bandes qu'ils

ont organisées pour qu'elles commettent non seulement des actes de pillage, et de destruction de toutes sortes, mais encore qu'elles mettent à mort traîtreusement les habitants Musulmans qu'elles rencontreraient ainsi que les Notables Grecs. || La révélation de ces faits résulte de la saisie de papiers compromettants saisis sur la personne de prisonniers Bulgares. || Hamid Bey a aussi à porter à la haute connaissance de sa Seigneurie que le Ministre de Grèce à Constantinople a dernièrement entretenu son Excellence le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de cet état de choses et lui a signalé le meurtre par des brigands Bulgares de plusieurs notabilités Grecques.

Ambassade Impériale de Turquie, Londres, le 7 Octobre, 1902.

Nr. 12836. **TÜRKEI.** — Derselbe an Denselben. Fordert energische Vorstellungen in Sofia.

(Received October 10.)

Le Chargé d'Affaires de Turquie a l'honneur de porter à la haute connaissance du Marquis de Lansdowne qu'il a reçu pour instructions de son Gouvernement de faire part à sa Seigneurie de ce qui suit relativement aux agissements des Comités Révolutionnaires Bulgares. || D'après les informations les plus récentes reçues par le Gouvernement Impérial les dits Comités ont accentué leurs menées subversives, et les effets pernicieux de cette agitation sont ressentis depuis quelques jours dans les provinces Ottomanes voisines de la Principauté. La vie et la sécurité des habitants paisibles, tant Musulmans que Chrétiens, de certains districts sont menacés par les attaques continuelles des affiliés des dits Comités. || Les autorités Impériales Ottomanes ne manquent pas, il est vrai, de prendre des mesures répressives sévères à l'égard de ces agitateurs; mais comme ceux-ci, toutes les fois qu'ils sont poursuivis, repassent la ligne de démarcation et jouissent de la plus complète impunité sur le territoire Bulgare les mesures dont il s'agit sont restées inefficaces. || Les démarches que le Gouvernement Impérial ne cesse de faire auprès du Gouvernement Princier tant pour la punition de ces bandits que pour la dissolution des Comités Révolutionnaires qui fonctionnent en Bulgarie au vu et au su des autorités Princières sont restées jusqu'ici sans résultat. || Hamid Bey est chargé de faire observer à sa Seigneurie que l'inaction injustifiable de la Principauté ne s'explique nullement et que les lois d'aucun État, quel que soit le régime qui le gouverne, ne permettent l'existence, encore moins le fonctionnement d'Associations formées dans le but de troubler l'ordre et la tranquillité dans les pays voisins

et de pousser les populations de ces pays à se soulever contre leurs autorités légitimes. || La nécessité de mettre sans retard un terme à la situation intolérable ci-dessus signalée impose au Gouvernement Impérial l'obligation d'attirer encore une fois la sérieuse attention de sa Seigneurie sur ce qui précède et de la prier instamment de faire entendre sa voix autorisée à Sophia pour assurer la dissolution des Comités précités et l'adoption de mesures efficaces propres à empêcher les affiliés de ces Comités de se livrer, soit ouvertement, soit secrètement, à leurs agissements criminels.

Ambassade Impériale de Turquie, Londres, le 10 Octobre, 1902.

Nr. 12837. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. Die bulgarische Regierung hält die Nachrichten von den Unruhen für übertrieben.

Sophia, October 4, 1902. (October 13.)

My Lord, || I asked M. Daneff at his weekly reception this morning what news he had of the reported insurrection in Macedonia. His Excellency replied that he had not had time, since his return from Shipka, to read his latest „Consular" reports, and as the Bulgarian Government did not employ the telegraph with their agents in European Turkey, he was not acquainted with the latest European developments. I observed that the numbers of killed and wounded among the insurgents in the Vodena district, quoted as official by more than one paper, seemed to indicate a very serious state of affairs, and said that Colonel Yankoff had obviously utilized the occasion of the Shipka celebrations to persuade the revolutionists that a resolute combined movement would, at this moment compel intervention from outside on their behalf, and I added that it was greatly to be deplored that so dangerous a man should have been allowed to escape. || M. Daneff agreed that Colonel Yankoff had tried to profit by the situation, but he must have been well aware of the very slender chances he had of success, for he was in relations with the Tsoncheff Committee, who knew that they would get no support either from the Bulgarian Government or from Russia, or from the Prince. M. Daneff was evidently aware how persistently rumour connects the Prince's name with the Committee, for he repeated with emphasis „or from the Prince, as I can assure you from personal knowledge". || His Excellency went on to say, as usual, that the newspaper accounts were much exaggerated, and that the numbers of the insurgents, acting under Yankoff (the „Reformi" has put them at 3000) were imaginary.

He admitted, however, that on the Albanian side and in the south the Monastir Vilayet was in a condition not far from anarchy, but said that it was absurd to speak of a general rising when the other parts of Macedonia were in their normal condition. He concluded his remarks by asserting that with the large forces which the Turkish Government has at its disposal in the disturbed districts, he felt no apprehensions that the movement would spread. Charles M. Marling.

Nr. 12838. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Belgrad an den Minister des Ausw. Einfluß der Schipkafeier.

Belgrade, October 8, 1902. (October 13.)

My Lord, || The recent celebrations at the Shipka Pass could not but excite considerable interest in Belgrade, and notwithstanding the tranquillizing assurances given on the occasion, the suggestion has been made that the object of Russia is to restore the territorial arrangements of the Treaty of San Stefano which, on account of the rivalry between Bulgaria and Servia, would naturally not be acceptable to this country. || It must be admitted that the language held subsequently by General Ignatieff at Sophia, as reported in the newspapers, gives some colour to this suggestion, and there seems to be little doubt that the Macedonian Committees have been taking advantage of the celebration to organize insurrections in the southern parts of Macedonia. || As far as can be judged from Belgrade, the situation in Macedonia is in some ways more dangerous than usual, principally on account of the unwonted activity displayed by the Macedonian Committees in the late autumn, which, as stated above, may be attributed to the opportunity which they expected would be afforded them by the Shipka celebrations. At the same time, I understand that the accounts published of the outrages and excesses have been greatly exaggerated, and that sensational telegrams produced with the avowed object of provoking the intervention of the Powers should be received with the utmost caution. || A meeting of Macedonians in Belgrade was to have been held on Sunday last, in order to protest against the ill-treatment of their fellow-countrymen in Macedonia. A large crowd assembled, but as there was no organization and they could not decide on the election of a Chairman or a Committee, a scene of disorder ensued and the meeting was eventually broken up by the police. A fresh meeting is to take place on Sunday next, meanwhile it is clear that there is no unanimity as to the form of resolution which will be adopted.

G. F. Bonham.

Nr. 12839. **GROSSBRITANNIEN** — Der Botschafter in Petersburg an den Minister des Ausw. Lamsdorff über die Schipkafeier.

St. Petersburgh, October 7, 1902. (October 13.)

(Extract.) || I called at the Russian Foreign Office yesterday to take leave of Count Lamsdorff before starting for my holiday. || In reply to my inquiry whether he had any commissions or messages for me to take to London, his Excellency said that he had none, except a desire to present his respects to your Lordship, and to express his regret at not yet having had an opportunity of making your personal acquaintance. || He then said that, happily, he saw no cloud on the political horizon at present to cause any anxiety or trouble. || The public press, it was true, had been giving currency to alarming telegrams from the Balkans, but he had, he said, failed to obtain any official conformation of their reports, and did not think that any serious trouble was at present to be apprehended there. || His Excellency also said that it was very possible that the commemorative ceremony and celebrations in the Shipka Pass had seemed, in quarters interested in sounding notes of alarm, too good an opportunity for the diffusion of exaggerating reports to be neglected, but that every precaution had been taken beforehand to keep the ceremony and festivities within the strict limits of their real character — partly religious and partly commemorative — and the Emperor had strictly enjoined on the Grand Duke Nicholas that nothing was to be said or done which could give occasion for political demonstrations of any kind. The visit which His Imperial Highness had been commissioned to pay to Constantinople on the termination of the celebration was intended to satisfy the Sultan of its non-political character, and of the Emperor's friendly disposition to His Majesty.

Nr. 12840. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an die Vertreter bei den Großmächten, bei der Türkei und Bulgarien.

Foreign Office, October 17, 1902.

(Telegraphic.) || The Turkish Chargé d'Affaires has made a communication complaining of the alleged increased activity of the Revolutionary Committees in Bulgaria and its disastrous effect on the neighbouring Ottoman provinces. || It is stated that as the agitators when pursued take refuge across the Bulgarian border, the repressive measures adopted by the Ottoman authorities are rendered ineffective, and that repeated requests made by the Porte to the Bulgarian Government for the punishment of the

offenders and the dissolution of the Committees have led to no result. || This attitude on the part of the Bulgarian Government appears to the Turkish Government to be unjustifiable, and they request His Majesty's Government to make representations at Sophia for the dissolution of the Committees and the adoption of measures to prevent their further activity. || I have informed Hamid Bey that before arriving at a decision it will be necessary for His Majesty's Government to confer with the other Powers, to whom similar representations have been addressed. The movement being popular in Bulgaria, no Bulgarian Government would be likely, on the advice of a single Power, to place itself in opposition to it. Strong pressure would be necessary, and Russia, if she were disposed to do so, was obviously in the best position to exercise such pressure. || You should inquire what view the Government to which you are accredited take of the Turkish Circular, and whether they have made any reply to it. His Majesty's Government would gladly co-operate with other Governments in any attempt to prevent an extension of the present disorders.

Nr. 12841. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Paris an den Minister des Ausw. Antwort auf das vorige.

Paris, October 18, 1902. (October 18.)

(Telegraphic.) || Your Lordship's telegram of yesterday respecting the agitation in Macedonia. M. Delcassé tells me that Turkish Ambassador has been sending him a series of such notes. || His Excellency said that he had already more than once urged the Bulgarian Government to oppose the revolutionary propaganda in Macedonia by every means in their power, and that he was ready to join the Powers in repeating this advice; but he added that, for such a communication to have its full effect, representations should, in his opinion, be made simultaneously to the Porte with a view to obtaining that measures should be taken which, by ameliorating the condition of the population of Macedonia, would render it less susceptible to the agitation of Bulgarian revolutionaries.

Nr. 12842. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Wien an den Minister des Ausw. Antwort auf Nr. 12840.

Vienna, October 18, 1902. (October 18.)

(Telegraphic.) || Count Goluchowski being absent, I was to-day informed by M. de Merey that he had replied to the Turkish Chargé

d'Affaires that the Austro-Hungarian Government would arrive at a decision after having inquired of their Agent at Sophia whether he considered there was ground for any fresh representations to the Bulgarian Government in the matter of your Lordship's telegram of yesterday. || It was still the belief of the Austro-Hungarian Government, added M. de Merey, that there was gross exaggeration in the reports received from Macedonia of outrages and revolutionary movements.

Nr. 12843. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Die Botschaft in Petersburg an den Minister des Ausw. Antwort auf Nr. 12840.

St Petersburgh, October 18, 1902. (October 18.)

(Telegraphic.) || This afternoon I made inquiries in accordance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's telegram of yesterday. || M. Argyropoulo said he probably could not give me the information which your Lordship desires without having consulted Count Lamsdorff at Yalta, and he accordingly asked me to send him a Memorandum. || He said that reports received from the Russian Agents did not describe the situation in Macedonia as serious, and he added that the Russian Government had received very definite assurances from the Bulgarian Government that they would give no encouragement to the revolutionary movement, while their attitude in taking measures to prevent incursions from their side of the frontier was most correct.

Nr. 12844. **TÜRKEI.** — Der Botschafter in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Rückkehr vieler Insurgenten in die Heimat.

Ambassade Impériale de Turquie, Londres,
le 18 October, 1902. (October 20.)

M. le Marquis, || J'ai l'honneur de porter à la haute connaissance de votre Seigneurie les faits suivants: — || D'après les récentes dépêches fournies par les autorités provinciales Ottomanes, ceux des habitants de quelques villages qui, à l'instigation des Comités Révolutionnaires Bulgares, s'étaient retirés dans les montagnes ont déjà pour la plupart regagné leurs foyers et les autres, dont le nombre est, du reste, très petit, ne tarderont pas à retourner également chez eux, grâce aux conseils qui leur sont donnés par leurs Chefs spirituels. || Ce fait prouve que les provinces Européennes de la Turquie ne se trouvent pas dans un état tel que certaines feuilles Bulgares cherchent à le représenter, et que si quel-

ques villageois s'étaient livrés à des actes irréfléchis, cela était exclusivement dû aux intrigues coupables des meneurs Bulgares. Le journal „Pravo“ et quelques autres organes sérieux de la presse Bulgare l'ont reconnu eux-mêmes. || Il convient d'ajouter que les villageois qui ont déjà réintégré leurs foyers avaient auparavant livré aux autorités Impériales la plus grande partie des armes qui leur avaient été distribuées par les révolutionnaires, et que bien qu'ils aient voulu conserver le reste pour se défendre contre les attaques de ces derniers, ils ont remis ces armes aux autorités sur les assurances qui leur ont été données que les troupes Impériales veilleraient à leur protection. A. Hamid.

Nr. 12845. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Paris. Besprechung mit dem französischen Botschafter über Vorstellungen in Sofia und Konstantinopel.

Foreign Office, October 22, 1902.

Sir, || The French Ambassador spoke to me to-day with regard to the proposal of the Turkish Government that the Powers should take action for the purpose of preventing the spread of disorder in the Balkan Peninsula. || His Excellency told me that the French Government had already made strong recommendations at Constantinople in favour of moderation, and that they had also energetically urged upon the Bulgarian Government the necessity of restraining the action of the Bulgarian agitators. His own impression was that there was nothing more to be done, and he had noticed with satisfaction that the situation appeared to be improving. || I told his Excellency that His Majesty's Government had also done what it could in the matter of good advice, and that I did not see that we could, for the present, usefully go further.

Lansdowne.

Nr. 12846. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Rom an den Minister des Ausw. Antwort auf Nr. 12840.

Rome, October 22, 1902. (October 22.)

(Telegraphic.) || Macedonian movement: Your Lordship's telegram of the 17th instant. || No reply has yet been sent to the Turkish note by the Italian Government. || Signor Prinetti has instructed the Italian Representative to ascertain the views taken by the other Powers. || He would be willing to join in making representations at Sophia if all the other

great Powers agreed to do the same. || Any action without unanimity would, in his opinion, be undesirable, and encourage Bulgaria to expect that the dissentient Powers would support her.

Nr. 12847. **TÜRKEI.** — Der Botschafter in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Agitation des revolutionären Komitees. (Received October 31.)

Le Chargé d'Affaires de Turquie a l'honneur d'informer, de la part de son Gouvernement, sa Seigneurie le Marquis de Lansdowne, que le Comité révolutionnaire Macédonien Mikhailovsky-Zontcheff a décidé dans une réunion privée de transmettre des télégrammes à Rome, Londres, et Paris, ainsi qu'aux Sociétés Panslavistes à Saint-Pétersbourg et Moscou leur enjoignant, en vue de la protection des Chrétiens habitant les provinces de l'Empire Ottoman, de s'adresser à cet effet aux Consuls étrangers à Sophia et d'envoyer Mikhailovsky en Europe pour qu'il fasse en personne des démarches et des communications dans ce sens. || La Sublime Porte ajoute que d'après un télégramme du Vali de Salonique les habitants des villages de Tchapara qui ont déjà regagné leurs foyers ont déclaré que tous les brigands qui les avaient forcés à se retirer dans les montagnes faisaient partie de la milice Bulgare.

Ambassade Impériale de Turquie, Londres, le 30 Octobre, 1902.

Nr. 12848. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Bericht des Konsularagenten in Monastir über die Unruhen. Oktober 1902.

All the bands in the Petrich and Juma Bala districts have been repulsed to the Malesh Mountains; the Chief, Doncho, who is reported to be desirous of crossing into Bulgaria, is said to be in Mount Perin. Meanwhile, a general amnesty has been proclaimed for all the villagers who had deserted their homes on the approach of the bands. || All the inhabitants of five villages, and most of those of three others, have returned to their homes, as well as many families in different villages. || About the 12th October a fierce fight took place at Godena, in which the insurgents' losses were considerable; fights were also reported as having taken place at Klissa Mahalessi (Melnik) and Sirbinovo (Juma Bala). At Crovchoriati a band of fifteen was besieged by the troops who burnt fifteen houses, and whose conduct in looting, &c., was complained of by the villagers to the Russian Consul at Monastir. || Two Christian Notables, while carrying the taxes of their villages, and accompanied by a military escort, were murdered at two hours' distance from Monastir. ||

On the 12th October 600 troops left Monastir for the Bulgarian frontier; 1 600 recruits arrived from Smyrna at Salonica. || Doncho's band of over 150 strong was on the 13th reported to be between Melnik and Demir Hissar: also another numerous band, under one Stoyan. Things are becoming normal again. The telegraph wires, which had been cut, are repaired. || On the 20th and 21st October encounters were reported at Juma Bala, in which the bands are said to have lost eighteen killed. The soldiers had fifteen casualties. || The most complete account of the outbreak received is a follows: — || The inhabitants of the village of Kresna, being supplied by the Committees with arms, decided, at their instigation, to revolt. Joining the bands, they seized the Kresna defile, through which runs the Demir Hissar-Juma Bala road, and thus cut off the communications between the Bulgarian frontier and Serres. The defile takes six hours to pass, and the Bulgarians were able to hold several strong positions near the bridge over the Struma. || Troops were at once sent to dislodge the Bulgarians, who withstood, during a three day's contest, the infantry sent against them, but were unable to stand against the artillery when brought up, and fled to the hills with but insignificant losses. The Turks lost 250 soldiers killed and wounded. The rebellion also broke out in the Caza of Petrich. In the time-honoured fashion the Turkish tax collector and rural guards were killed and the inhabitants of several villages joined in arms under the command of a Bulgarian officer named Stoyanoff, taking up a strong position near Goremno. In this instance, also, the Turks were at first driven back, but when reinforcements arrived they took the Bulgarian positions. || In both cases it is asserted that during the pursuit the Turks committed acts of pillage, and even put peasants to death. The damage done by the insurgents to the railway and telegraph lines was soon repaired. The villagers are now returning to their homes unmolsted by the Turkish authorities. In some cases they have given up their arms to them. The bands have mostly returned to Bulgaria, but some are still said to be lurking in the mountains, and are being pursued by the military. || From Monastir the following items of news have been received: — || At the village of Chairli several Bulgarians were murdered on the 15th instant, and their houses burnt, by order of the Perlepe Committee, as a punishment for having given information to the Turkish authorities as to the whereabouts of the bands. Such is the terror inspired by the bands that no one dare to come to the rescue of the victims, or to put out the conflagration. || The Turkish Minister of War confirms the rumoured capture of Colonel Yankoff, the Bulgarian revolutionary leader, near Monastir, and the death of another

near Osmanie, He acknowledged that the fight in the Kresna defile was severe, and mentioned that the Bulgarians, besides killing some Moslems in the village, had put to death several Moslem workmen engaged in constructing the chaussée from Demir Hissar to Juma. He has now twenty-three battalions in the Serres district under the command of Ibrahim Pasha, a very capable leader. No troops were sent from Constantinople.

Nr. 12849. **TÜRKEI.** — Der Botschafter in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Mißhandlung der Mohammedaner in Mazedonien.

(Received November 12.)

Le Chargé d'Affaires de Turquie présente ses compliments au Marquis de Lansdowne et, conformément aux instructions qu'il a reçues de son Gouvernement, a l'honneur d'informer sa Seigneurie que d'après des rapports du Commissaire Impérial Ottoman à Sophia ainsi que de l'Agent Commercial à Roustchouk, la Sublime Porte est à même d'exposer les faits suivants relativement aux agissements des Comités Révolutionnaires Bulgares. || A Sophia des affiches ont été apposées aux murs de cette ville par le Comité Bulgare Mikhailovski et aussi par le Comité initulé, „Philippopoli Macédoine". Le Commissaire Impérial déclare que les dites affiches ne contenaient que des mensonges et qu'elles surexcitaient l'opinion publique pour recommander aux habitants de venir en aide aux deux Comités susmentionnés. Il ajoute que les agitateurs Kliman Teschkoff, Lazaro Leganoff, Lazaro Philipoff ont préparé un registre de souscriptions qu'ils font circuler de magasins en magasins et qu'ils recueillent ainsi beaucoup d'argent, un grand nombre de commerçants et de notabilités ayant contribué à ces souscriptions, dont le produit est employé à l'achat de vêtements pour les réfugiés Bulgares qui de la Turquie franchissent la frontière pour retourner en Bulgarie. || En même temps Hamid Bey est chargé de faire observer à sa Seigneurie que d'autre part les autorités Bulgares prétendent qu'elles font tout leur possible pour empêcher les agitateurs de franchir la frontière et qu'elles ont envoyé de Philippopoli à Stanamaka un peloton de cavalerie et de Bazardjik à Pochtra une compagnie d'infanterie contre les agitateurs, et que dans une rencontre ceux-ci qui portaient sur leurs képis les mots „Mort ou Salut" furent faits prisonniers. Les autorités Bulgares affirment qu'ils furent exilés. || La Sublime Porte insiste sur ce fait, à savoir qu'en réalité le Gouvernement Bulgare n'a absolument rien fait pour empêcher les actes signalés plus

haut à la charge des Comités Révolutionnaires et elle a en outre à faire savoir à sa Seigneurie que les Bulgares ont commencé à maltraiter les populations Musulmanes dans ces localités. || Quant au rapport de l'Agent Commercial Ottoman à Roustchouk Hamid Bey a pour devoir d'exposer à sa Seigneurie ce qui suit. || Des excès et cruautés ont été récemment commis par des révolutionnaires Bulgares à l'égard des Musulmans de cette ville. En voici des exemples: Le nommé Ahmet, qui allait à son travail, a été attaqué et battu par ces malfaiteurs Bulgares. Il se trouve maintenant à l'ôpital de Roustchouk. Une vieille femme Mahométane qui allait puiser de l'eau a été frappée en plein jour d'un coup de couteau par les mêmes bandits au bras droit. Elle est également à l'hôpital. Le nommé Ibrahim, marchand de bonbons, à été si grièvement atteint par des mécréants Bulgares qu'il est mort des suites de ses blessures. || Bien d'autres Musulmans ont été attaqués et maltraités par les Bulgares à Roustchouk; ceux qui se sont présentés à la police pour se plaindre de ces méfaits ont reçu pour réponse qu'on ne pouvait rien faire pour eux. || Le Chargé d'Affaires a également à porter à la haute connaissance de sa Seigneurie que bien que ces forfaits et ces outrages soient perpétrés sous les yeux des autorités Bulgares, les criminels armés de fusils Martini et de revolvers se promènent dans les rues pour se lancer ouvertement à la poursuite des Musulmans. || Hamid Bey a pour devoir de déclarer que la Sublime Porte constate que les autorités Princières, nonobstant les assurances qu'elles ne cessent de donner au Gouvernement Impérial Ottoman, permettent aux Comités de tenir des réunions sous leurs yeux, de se livrer à des agissements subversifs et de commettre à l'égard des Musulmans établis dans la Principauté des aggressions incompatibles avec les règles de la civilisation et de l'humanité. || Hamid Bey est conséquemment chargé de prier sa Seigneurie de faire à Sophia les communications qu'elle jugerait nécessaires pour que les promesses faites par le Gouvernement Princier soient tenues et que celui-ci soit forcé de prendre des dispositions propres à empêcher les vexations auxquelles les Musulmans se trouvant en Bulgarie sont en butte de la part des meneurs Bulgares.

Ambassade Impériale de Turquie, Londres, le 11 Novembre, 1902.

Nr. 12850. **TÜRKEI.** — Derselbe an Denselben. Unterstützung der Banden durch bulgarische Behörden.

Hamid Bey a l'honneur de porter à la haute connaissance de sa Seigneurie le Marquis de Lansdowne qu'il vient de recevoir de son Gouvernement la communication suivante: — || Les bandes de brigands Bul-

gares qui, poursuivies par les troupes Impériales, ont dû retourner en Bulgarie, se prépareraient à franchir de nouveau la ligne de démarcation. || Le brigand Dontcho et ses acolytes qui, à leur retour de Kustendil, avaient été arrêtés par les autorités locales, viennent d'être remis en liberté. || D'autre part, le Lieutenant Bulgare Kurdoyef, préposé au poste de Tschernaeskala, sur la ligne de démarcation, accorde toute sorte de facilités aux brigands tant lors de leur passage dans les provinces limitrophes Ottomanes qu'à leur retour en Bulgarie. Il a même retenu les armes du dit Dontcho et de ses acolytes, pour les leur remettre au cas où ils feraient une nouvelle irruption, dans les vilayets de l'Empire. || Hamid Bey vient en conséquence prier sa Seigneurie le Marquis de Lansdowne de vouloir bien user de sa puissante influence auprès du Gouvernement Princier pour l'engager à sévir contre les brigands qui sont entrés dans la Principauté afin de les mettre dans l'impossibilité de renouveler leurs exploits.

Ambassade Impériale de Turquie, Londres, le 14 Novembre, 1902.

Nr. 12851. BULGARIEN. — Erklärung des Ministers des Ausw. in der Sobranje über die mazedonischen Unruhen.

It is true that the situation in Macedonia is difficult. The extent of the rising, however, is exaggerated. The population in general has not risen. The Bulgarian Government has done, and is still doing, its duty. All the European Powers appreciate the loyal attitude maintained by the Bulgarian Government in the Macedonian business. With a view to our own national interests, as well as to the interests of the population beyond the Rilo Mountains, the Bulgarian Government puts forth all its strength for the purpose of hindering the passage of bands into Macedonia. You know how difficult this is. The frontiers of that region are very exstensive, and it is consequently very difficult to guard them, especially against the passage of single individuals. At any rate, we are doing our best to guard the frontier well. If the Bulgarian Government did not take these measures to watch its frontiers, the European Powers would certainly assume that we are equipping the bands here and sending them across the frontier to foment and encourage insurrection, which is not true. In reality, the European Powers appreciate, with good reason, our loyal attitude, our efforts with regard to events in Macedonia; and all of them, with one exception, having convinced themselves that the rising in Macedonia is in consequence of the desperation to which the population is reduced by the administration of that province, are

interesting themselves in the matter, and endeavouring, by pressing demands for the indroduction of reforms, to obtain a settlement of this question.

Nr. 12852. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. Berichtet eine Rede des bulgarischen Ministers des Ausw. über mazedonische Reformen.

Sophia, November 22, 1902. (November 27.)

My Lord, || I have the honour to report that, in closing the debate on the address, M. Daneff, the Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, made a speech containing passages relating to the Macedonian question, of which the following is a summary: — || „The Macedonian question", he said, „interests us in two aways: firstly, from the purely national point of view, and secondly, from the influence it exerts upon our internal and external policy. The second point especially gives us cause for reflection. A great emigration forces its way into the country, seeking shelter and means of livelihood; the relations and friends of the emigrants remain behind in Macedonia maintaining a lively interest in them; we are thereby infected, and our policy is influenced. This emigration must be stopped, and this can only be done by the romoval of the causes of it; if, therefore, we take steps to obtain the execution of the Treaty of Berlin, we do so in order to obtain relief for ourselves from an uncomfortable position. This is the object which the Bulgarian Government must pursue. It must be declared *urbi et orbi* that the Bulgarian Government desires reforms in Macedonia in order to put an end at once to the want of confidence of other Governments, and to their error in supposing the Bulgarians to be a barbarous and unruly element. A similar result was aimed at by the visit of His Majesty the King of Roumania. || „The Government has nothing in common with the Committees. The bands commit a crime against international relations. No one is in a position absolutely to close the frontier. The Government itself can do nothing; the granting of reforms does not rest with it, but it goes on working and making demands. In order that Bulgarians and Macedonians may live quietly in peace, the Government will demand reforms once, twice, and even three times; if no reforms follow, then happen what God will!"

F. Elliot.

Nr. 12853. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Paris an den Minister des Ausw. Die französische Regierung befürchtet für den Frühling große Unruhen in Mazedonien.

Paris, December 3, 1902. (December 4.)

My Lord || M. Delcassé said to me this afternoon that although he believed that certain French papers had much exaggerated the amount of the fighting in Macedonia, which had really consisted of nothing but skirmishes, he found that there was a general apprehension, of no uncertain character, as to the prospect of serious disturbances in the spring. All the French Agents in South-Eastern Europe had reported in this sense; and he found that at the various great capitals the same impression prevailed. || I observed that I regretted to have to say that from every quarter I had heard the same story. One could only hope that, as every one appeared to be prepared for the worst, there would be a unanimity in taking such preliminary precautions as were possible for confining within the smallest possible circle the outburst of the dreaded disturbance.

Edmund Monson.

Nr. 12854. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Minister des Ausw. Vorstellungen des russischen Botschafters an die Pforte. Reformplan der Pforte.

Constantinople, December 1, 1902. (December 8.)

My Lord, || I learnt this morning from the Minister for Foreign Affairs that at a recent audience with the Sultan the Russian Ambassador alluded to the Macedonian question, and that his language was to the following effect: — || M. Zinovieff began by calling His Imperial Majesty's attention to the disorder prevailing in Albania, and dwelt on the necessity of taking measures to put an end to a condition of affairs which threatened the peace of the province. The situation in Macedonia also was most unsatisfactory; revolutionary bands roaming about the country harassed the inhabitants, and kept them in such a state of unrest that unless the Imperial Government removed the grounds of discontent and complaint, it was to be feared that this undesirable condition would be indefinitely prolonged. It was, therefore, of imperative necessity that the general administration in these provinces should be improved, that the gendarmerie, troops, and civil servants should be regularly paid, and that various reforms should be introduced, and among such ameliorations he

thought that the representation in the gendarmerie of the Christian element should be included. || M. Zinovieff went on to say that if measures to redress the legitimate grievances of the popolation were not now taken, the insurrectionary movement would certainly break out again in the spring with renewed force, and a situation would be created that would call for the interference of foreign Powers, and might possibly lead to an international Conference. Such a result, his Excellency said, would be to the interests neither of Turkey nor of Russia, and to assist His Imperial Majesty to avert such an eventuality he offered to prepare, in concert with the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, and submit to the Sultan a paper which, without pretending to make any definite proposals, might serve as an *aide-mémoire* of the measures which the present situation appeared to demand. The Ambassador observed, however, that, even if the abuses in the administration were formed, he could not guarantee that the agitation and revolutionary bands would disappear from Macedonia; but at any rate, the removal of the grounds of legitimate complaint would diminish their *raison d'être*, and they would no longer receive the support and encouragement of the population, while the Imperial Government would be able to take measures for the preservation of public order and general tranquillity in this part of His Majesty's dominions. || In reply, the Sultan said that it was unnecessary for his Excellency to go to the trouble of drawing up the Memorandum suggested, as there was already under consideration a scheme of administrative improvement which he felt sure would meet the political and economical requirements of the situation, and His Majesty's Ministers would be at once instructed to elaborate the projected reforms. || The Russian Ambassador's language seems to me particularly satisfactory, as giving evidence of a desire on the part of his Government to consult and act in concert with Austria in the Macedonian question, as stipulated in the Agreement made between the two Powers in 1897.

Just at present, owing to the difficulty of carrying on operations in the mountains during the winter, the condition of the Balkan Peninsula is relatively peaceful; but the Revolutionary Committees are active in organizing the inhabitants and urging them to join in the nationalist and anti-Turkish movement, and arms are being collected and imported for use whenever the opportune moment arrives. These and other indications point unmistakably to a more serious revolutionary outbreak in the spring, and it is highly desirable that all the Great Powers — and particularly the two which are more directly concerned by their geographical position and political interests — should urge on the Sultan

the pressing necessity for removing the main grounds of the inhabitants' discontent by the introduction of real and important reforms into the general administration. || That His Imperial Majesty realizes the danger of allowing the present state of things to continue appears evident from the fact that Tewfik Pasha informed me to-day, when I questioned him on the subject, that already the scheme of which His Imperial Majesty spoke to M. Zinovieff had actually taken shape. It was discussed on the 27th, at a meeting of high officials which lasted late into the night, and the proposals then elaborated have been submitted to, and approved by, the Council of Ministers. A Commission, under the presidency of Ferid Pasha (an able and respectable official, and lately Vali of Koniah), is to sit permanently at the Porte throughout the winter to supervise the carrying out of the reforms; and two Inspectors — one of whom will be Hussein Hilmi Pasha, ex-Governor of Yemen, while the other is to be selected from the members of the Military Commission of Yildiz — will be sent to Macedonia, and will furnish Reports to the Commission in Constantinople. || The chances of satisfactory results following on the labours of this Commission, supported as it will be by the pressure of the Powers, must be estimated rather by the Sultan's apprehension of the danger of allowing the existing state of affairs to continue in the Balkans than by the success which has attended previous similar Commissions. His Imperial Majesty is no doubt aware that a general insurrection so close to his capital would imperil not only his European territory, but even his personal security, and that in certain given eventualities Bulgaria will be behind the Macedonian revolutionists. There is in this a certain assurance that reforms of some value will be proposed and introduced, which will tend to stay the revolutionary movement — at all events for a time. N. R. O'Conor.

Nr. 12855. **TÜRKEI.** — Reformplan für Mazedonien.

Dezember 1903.

Instructions concernant les Vilayets de la Turquie d'Europe.

Première Partie. — Organisation.

Chapitre I. — *Administration.*

Article 1er. Les Valis devront veiller à l'application de toutes les mesures propres à assurer le progrès des travaux publics, du commerce, de l'agriculture, et des institutions industrielles, ainsi que le développement de l'instruction publique. || Des postes de Directeur des Travaux Publics seront nouvelle-

ment créés auprès de chaque Vali. || Des Directeurs de l'Instruction Publique et de l'Agriculture seront aussi nommés dans les provinces où il n'en existerait pas. || Art. 2. Les affaires touchant les étrangers dans les provinces resteront comme par le passé sous la responsabilité des Valis. Un fonctionnaire ayant le titre de „Oumour édjnébié mudiri" (Directeur Politique), nommé par le Ministère de l'Intérieur et connaissant le Droit International, les dispositions des Traités et les usages diplomatiques, se trouvera auprès de chaque Vali. Les Drogmans des vilayets seront également nommés par le Département de l'Intérieur. Toutefois le Ministère des Affaires Étrangères devra certifier au préalable que les candidats proposés pour ces postes possèdent les connaissances requises. || Art. 3. Un poste de Caimaïcam sera créé au chef-lieu du vilayet pour s'occuper de l'Administration du Caza central. || Art. 4. Les Valis devront veiller à ce que les employés nommés par les vilayets possèdent les capacités requises. Quant aux Mutessarifs adjoints des Valis, Mektoubajis, Caimaïcams, et autres fonctionnaires, les documents relatifs à leur choix seront référés à la Commission du Personnel Civil, qui, après s'être livrée à une enquête et avoir demandé l'avis des Valis, procédera à leur nomination conformément au règlement. || Art. 5. La destitution, le remplacement, et la nomination des officiers supérieurs et subalternes de Gendarmerie, et des Directeurs et Commissaires de Police se feront par les Départements respectifs, avec l'avis des Valis. || Art. 6. Les gendarmes seront recrutés dans les provinces parmi les Musulmans et les Chrétiens. Ils devront, lors de leur nomination, prêter serment suivant la règle. || Art. 7. Parmi les Musulmans qui seront admis dans la Gendarmerie, ceux qui auront accompli leur service militaire sans avoir subi aucune condamnation auront la préférence. En dehors de ceux-ci, les individus, tant Musulmans que Chrétiens, qui seront engagés comme gendarmes, devront jouir d'une bonne réputation, et n'avoir subi aucune condamnation. || Art. 8. Le Commissaire et les agents de police des provinces seront recrutés parmi les Musulmans et les Chrétiens et seront, lors de leur engagement, assermentés conformément à la règle. || Ils devront également être honnêtes et probes, et n'avoir point subi de condamnation. Ils devront savoir lire et écrire le Turc. Parmi les Musulmans, ceux qui possèdent ces qualités et auraient accompli leur service militaire seront considérés lors de l'engagement comme ayant un droit de préférence. || Art. 9. Dans le cas où un incident de nature à troubler l'ordre public dans la province viendrait à se produire et que l'insuffisance des gendarms étant constatée, le vilayet jugerait nécessaire de disposer de troupes, le Gouvernement Général en avisera immédiatement le Commandant militaire, qui, tout en préparant

des troupes, en informera télégraphiquement, sans perte de temps, le Ministère de la Guerre en vue de solliciter l'autorisation Impériale à ce sujet. Après avoir reçu en réponse communication de l'Iradé Impérial le Commandant avisera au nécessaire. Toutefois, lors d'une pareille éventualité le Vali devra en faire l'exposé des motifs, qui sera également approuvé par le Commandant militaire.

Chapitre II. — *Justice.*

Art. 10. Dans les localités où il n'existe point de Tribunaux Nizamiés, il en sera établi conformément à la loi sur l'organisation judiciaire. || Le mode en vigueur aujourd'hui pour le choix des juges sera aboli, et les membres des Tribunaux qui devront avoir les capacités requises seront choisis par le Ministère de la Justice, moitié parmi les Musulmans, moitié parmi les Chrétiens comme par le passé. Les membres des Tribunaux devront appartenir à la carrière judiciaire, et les licenciés de la faculté de droit seront nommés de préférence. || Art. 11. Les Tribunaux de Première Instance, chargés des affaires civiles et pénales des Cazas, seront à l'instar de ce qui se fait dans les Sandjaks et dans quelques Cazas divisés en deux sections distinctes pour les procês civils et pénaux. Les Naibs continueront à présider les Tribunaux Civils. Pour les Tribunaux Correctionnels il sera nommé un Président de carrière, ainsi qu'un substitut du Procureur et un Juge d'Instruction. || Art. 12. Les Tribunaux seront indépendants et à l'abri de toute immixtion. Lorsqu'il sera constaté que les Juges et les fonctionnaires judiciaires auront commis des actes contraires à la loi et à la probité, les Valis et l'Inspecteur-Général en aviseront immédiatement le Ministère de la Justice. Ce Département devra les mettre sous jugement, après les avoir, suivant le cas, ou suspendus de leurs fonctions ou bien révoqués après un complément d'enquête établissant leur culpabilité.

Chapitre III. — *Instruction Publique.*

Art. 13. Il sera établi des écoles primaires dans tous les villages qui en sont dépourvus et qui sont composés de plus de cinquante maisons. || On créera aussi, ou on augmentera le nombre, des écoles primaires et primaires supérieures dans les Cazas ainsi que des écoles primaires et des écoles secondaires mixtes dans les chefs-lieux des Sandjaks et des vilayets. L'enseignement dans ces écoles sera conforme aux programmes arrêtés par le Ministère de l'Instruction Publique. || Art. 14. Les deux tiers de la redevance de l'instruction publique de chaque province seront alloués aux frais de l'instruction publique de cette province et l'autre tiers aux écoles supérieures de la capitale.

Chapitre IV. — *Travaux Publics.*

Art. 15. Le système de prestation actuellement en vigueur pour la construction des voies de communication sera maintenu. Les 5 pour cent des revenus généraux de chaque province seront en outre affectés aux travaux d'utilité publique.

Seconde Partie. — Mode d'Exécution.

Art. 16. Les Gouverneurs-Généraux sont chargés de l'exécution des dispositions contenues dans les Articles précédents. En outre, il est nommé un Inspecteur-Général du rang de Vézir, et ayant à sa suite des fonctionnaires civils et militaires. ‖ Art. 17. L'Inspecteur-Général aura pour mission: ‖ 1. De faire appliquer les dispositions précédentes; ‖ 2. De signaler aux Valis les dispositions qui ne seraient pas exécutées et d'en aviser la Sublime Porte; ‖ 3. D'exercer une surveillance sur les affaires civiles et financières, ainsi que sur les autres branches administratives des provinces, et de soumettre à la Sublime Porte les points qui nécessiteraient une amélioration; ‖ 4. De révoquer, après s'être concerté avec les Valis, les fonctionnaires dont la destitution serait considérée nécessaire, et de faire traduire devant les Tribunaux compétents ceux qui auraient commis des actes exigeant leur mise sous jugement. Il devra aussi demander à la Sublime Porte de pourvoir au remplacement de ceux de ces fonctionnaires nommés par Iradé Impérial. ‖ Art. 18. Il est instituée à la Sublime Porte une Commission composée d'un Président et de trois membres qui aura pour attributions d'examiner toutes les communications adressées à la Sublime Porte relativement aux mesures prises par les Valis pour l'application des dispositions qui précèdent et aux résultats de l'inspection exercée par l'Inspecteur-Général, de correspondre au besoin avec les Valis et avec l'Inspecteur-Général et de soumettre sans retard ses décisions au Grand Vézirat.

Nr. 12856. **RUSSLAND.** — Publikation des „Journal de St. Pétersbourg" über die mazedonische Frage.

$\frac{1}{14}$ Dezember 1902.

Le „Messager Officiel" publie aujourd'hui la communication suivante: —

„La situation de la Péninsule Balkanique, telle que la présentent les nouvelles qui parviennent de l'Orient Ottoman, n'exclut pas la possibilité de complications sérieuses. ‖ „Grâce aux mesures qui ont pu être prises à temps, et en raison de la venue de la saison d'hiver, on peut compter

que l'agitation en Macédoine ne s'étendra pas actuellement; toutefois, bien des indices témoignent du mécontentement croissant de la population Orthodoxe de Turquie, laquelle sous la pression de différents Comités, semble se préparer à une insurrection générale pour le printemps prochain. || „Ces faits inquiétants ne pouvaient ne pas attirer l'attention de la Russie, dont les préoccupations constantes et traditionnelles ont en vue le sort de populations qui lui sont congénères. || „Pour mettre un terme à une agitation qui pourrait créer les complications les plus graves dans toute la Péninsule Balkanique, le Gouvernement Impérial a fait des démarches conformes auprès de la Porte; l'Ambassadeur de Russie à Constantinople a été chargé, après un examen des conditions locales, de donner son avis sur les réformes possibles à introduire d'urgence dans l'organisation administrative de la Macédoine, et de conseiller avec instance au Gouvernement Ottoman de mettre ces réformes au plus tôt en vigueur, à l'effet d'améliorer le mode d'existence de la population Orthodoxe. || „On ne saurait cependant perdre de vue que, tant que persiste dans cette province l'état de trouble actuel, donnant au Gouvernement Ottoman une base légale pour les mesures à prendre envers ses sujets insurgés, il est très malaisé pratiquement de mettre à exécution des améliorations administratives quelconque et de garantir complètement la population contre les moyens très durs de répression dont usent les autorités locales. || „C'est pourquoi la première et la principale condition du succès à cet égard est la cessation des troubles que fomentent les Comités Macédoniens, lesquels, sans atteindre le but patriotique allégué par eux, détournent seulement les habîtants de cette contrée de leurs occupations pacifiques et les exposent à toutes les conséquences pénibles d'entraînements funestes. || „Le Gouvernement Impérial a eu plus d'une fois l'occasion de faire connaître sa manière de voir dans la question Macédonienne, en blâmant les tentatives de tout genre des nationalités Slaves s'efforçant de changer par des moyens violents l'ordre de choses établi dans la Péninsule et qui est garanti par des Traités Internationaux. Le Gouvernement Impérial continue à maintenir cette même manière de voir. C'est pourquoi il a jugé nécessaire de confirmer à nouveau les conseils bienveillants qu'il a donnés aux Gouvernements Serbe et Bulgare, en faisant valoir la nécessité pour eux de s'opposer, dans leur propre intérêt, à toute agitation dangereuse, et de concourir de toute manière au maintien de la tranquillité dans la Péninsule. || „Le Gouvernement Impérial est en droit de compter que les États Slavs qui doivent leur libération et leur existence autonome aux sacrifices et au désintéressement de la Russie, suivront les conseils qui leur sont donnés étant fermement

assurés que les démarches faites par la volonté souveraine de Sa Majesté l'Empereur atteindront le but qu'elles ont en vue. || „La décision inébranlable de la Russie de prévenir des complications possibles dans la Péninsule des Balkans rencontre un complet assentiment de la part des autres Puissances. Le Gouvernement Austro-Hongrois n'a pas tardé à chargê son Représentant à Constantinople de s'associer, après un échange de vues avec l'Ambassadeur de Russie, à ses démarches instantes auprès de la Porte au sujet de la nécessité d'introduire le plus tôt possible des réformes en Macédoine. || „Les efforts communs des deux Empires voisins les plus intéressés au maintien de la paix dans l'Orient Ottoman sont une conséquence directe de l'accord conclu entre eux en 1897, et dont l'action bienfaisante et l'existence même ne sont possibles qu'à la condition de l'observation la plus stricte des principes qui lui servent de base, et qui ont pour objet de ne pas admettre de changements arbitraires dans l'ordre de choses établi par les Traités dans la Péninsule des Balkans, et d'y maintenir la tranquillité si nécessaire au bien-être des populations Chrétiennes et à la conservation de la paix générale. || „Comme conclusion, le Gouvernement Impérial, qui a donné maintes preuves de son constant désir de maintenir les meilleurs rapports avec la Turquie, ne saurait ne pas exprimer l'espoir que le Gouvernement du Sultan, en prenant les mesures nécessaires pour mettre fin à tous les actes de violence et de cruauté, appréciera la portée des démarches amicales de la Russie en faveur de la population Chrétienne de la Macédoine, dont la pacification la plus prompte est le meilleur moyen d'empêcher l'éclosion des complications les plus dangereuses pour l'Empire Ottoman."

Nr. 12857. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Minister des Ausw. Unterredung mit dem Sultan über Nr. 12853.

Constantinople, December 19, 1902. (December 19.)

(Telegraphic.) || Yesterday, His Majesty in conversation, asked for my views on his scheme for the improvement of the administration of Macedonia (see my despatch of the 3rd December), and for my opinion on the general situation as regards that province. || I said that to give an opinion offhand on such a grave subject was a difficult matter, but that I should without hesitation advise His Majesty to hasten to appoint members of the Christian faith on both Hussein's and Ferid's Commissions. || I also suggested that investigation into the complaints against the gendarmerie and police, the reorganization of these forces, and the

introduction of practical and effective reforms should be entrusted to another Commission which should partly be composed of Christian members. I described the situation as one which, failing the prompt redress of the legitimate complaints of the people, was fraught with danger to His Majesty himself and to his Empire. || After discussing at some length the best steps to be taken, His Majesty said that he would at once appoint as a member of the Commission sitting at the Porte, Alexander Caratheodori Pasha, and that he would send another Commission into the Roumelian provinces who would reorganize the gendarmerie and police, and would inquire into the abuses generally. To this Commission would be appointed Nassir Pasha and two officers of the gendarmerie section of the Ministry of War, General Blunt Pasha, and a German officer selected with care from those serving in the Turkish army.

Nr. 12858. TÜRKEI — Mazedonische Reformen.

1. Der erste Sekretär des Sultans an die Generalgouverneure von Monastir, Kossovo, Saloniki, Janina, Adrianopel, Scutarie.

Le 19 Décembre (N. S.), 1902.

(Télégraphique.) || Ainsi que Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan l'a ordonné à plusieurs reprises, et qu'il est déterminé par les lois et règlements de l'Empire, les premiers devoirs des Gouverneurs-Généraux sont de protéger les biens, la vie, et l'honneur de tous dans les provinces qu'ils administrent, et de sauvegarder ainsi la sécurité et la tranquillité dans le pays. Des plaintes sont, cependant, formulées au sujet de certains actes d'agression et de la négligence dont les autorités Impériales feraient preuve vis-à-vis des auteurs de ces méfaits. || Cet état de choses est contraire tant aux devoirs essentiels des Valis qu'aux prescriptions des Iradés Impériaux. Aussi, d'après un Ordre formel de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan, un délai de vingt jours vous est-il accordé pour que vous fassiez arrêter pendant ce délai tous les individus qui ont commis des délits ou des crimes dans la province, et leur appliquer les prescriptions de la loi, et que vous soumettiez aux pieds du Trône Impérial le résultat des mesures que vous auriez prises en exécution de cet Ordre Impérial. Il faut que tous les fonctionnaires sachent que toute attitude contraire entraînera leur révocation et une grande responsabilité, et qu'ils travaillent par conséquent d'une manière sérieuse à assurer le résultat désiré. Notre Auguste Maître ordonne, en outre, que si, en pareil

cas, le nombre des gendarmes n'étant pas suffisant, la nécessité de recourir aux troupes Impériales se fait sentir d'une manière absolue et réelle, les autorités militaires, sur un Acte délivré par le Vali, prêteront immédiatement l'assistance requise. Il est cependant bien entendu que les autorités Impériales, en vue de prévenir tout abus, s'abstiendront de se servir de troupes dans les affaires qui pourraient être réglées seulement par la gendarmerie. || Des communications dans le sens qui précède ont été faites au Ministère de la Guerre.

2. Der Grosswessir an den Generalinspekteur und die Gouverneure der Provinzen der europäischen Türkei.

Le 5 (18) Décembre, 1902.

(Télégraphique.) || Quelques Représentants étrangers viennent de nous aviser, d'une manière privée, que des actes criminels de toute nature se produisent sur certains points de votre province, sous les yeux mêmes des fonctionaires locaux, qui font semblant de les ignorer. || Les premiers désirs de l'autorité sont d'assurer et de maintenir dans les provinces la confiance et la tranquillité, d'adopter toutes les dispositions efficaces propres à empêcher que des vexations et des méfaits soient commis par les uns au détriment des autres, de garantir également les biens, la vie, et l'honneur des habitants Chrétiens, d'arrêter ceux qui se livreraient à des actes contraires à ces principes et de leur infliger sans retard la punition qu'ils auraient légalement encouru et de ne rien négliger pour que les fonctionnaires, qui feraient preuve d'inattention ou de manque d'énergie dans l'accomplissement de leurs devoirs, soient immédiatement destitués et mis sous jugement. || Bien que ces recommandations vous aient été déjà adressées à maintes reprises, le fait que des plaintes continuent à être formulées de ce chef va à l'encontre des désirs du Gouvernement Impérial. Aussi a-t-il été décidé, d'une façon formelle, que dans le cas où de pareilles plaintes viendraient encore à se produire, tous les fonctionnaires, grands et petits, qui ne rempliraient pas leurs devoirs en seraient, sans exception aucune, tenus sévèrement responsables.

Nr. 12859. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Wien. Bemerkungen zum Vorgehen Österreich-Ungarns und Rußlands.

Foreign Office, January 6, 1903.

Sir, || I told the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador to-day that His Majesty's Government were watching with close interest the efforts of the

Austrian and Russian Governments to arrive at an understanding with the Porte as to the introduction of an improved system of local government in Macedonia. || We recognized that Austria and Russia were specially interested in the matter, and also that they were in a specially advantageous position for dealing with it; but his Excellency would, I was sure, unterstand the immense importance which we attached to the question, and our earnest desire to contribute, so far as our opportunities permitted, to its satisfactory solution. We had instructed our Ambassador at Constantinople to impress upon the Sultan the gravity of the situation and the absolute necessity of introducing substantial measures of reform. His Excellency would find me at any time ready to discuss with him the steps which might be taken in order to promote the adoption of such measures. Lansdowne.

Nr. 12860. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Konstantinopel. Ansicht der englischen Regierung über die notwendigen Reformen.

Foreign Office, January 9, 1903.

Sir, || I have already, in my telegram of the 21st December, conveyed to your Excellency my approval of the language held by you, at a private audience with the Sultan on the 18th December, in regard to Macedonia, as reported by you in your telegram of the 19th ultimo. The advice offered by your Excellency to His Imperial Majesty was thoroughly in accordance with the views of His Majesty's Government. || In their opinion the condition of the population in this portion of the Turkish Empire has become almost intolerable, and the need for measures of reform is urgent. They agree with your Excellency that the appointment of one or more Christians of established position and reputation to take part in the Commission of Inquiry now sitting at the Porte, and on that of inspection sent to the spot, would be advantageous. But what is most urgently needed at the present moment is not inquiry but measures of immediate and practical reform in the Administration. For this purpose, as stated by your Excellency, the expedient most calculated to secure success and to command public confidence is not so much the introduction of theoretical changes of system, or limitations as regards the creed of highly-placed officials, as the appointment of European experts of tried ability and integrity in the Departments of Justice and Finance, and of a certain number of carefully-selected European officers

to reorganize the gendarmerie and police. The presence of such officers in the disturbed districts would not only be a considerable guarantee against the recurrence of acts of cruelty and oppression, but would give far better opportunities than at present exist for examining and checking the exaggerated reports of outrages which are now disseminated by both sides for the purpose of inflaming public opinion. || It is, of course, obvious that without adequate financial arrangements for the payment of the various branches of the Administration no reforms can be carried into practical effect. || These are the salient points on which His Majesty's Government think it necessary to lay stress. From the reports which have reached me from other capitals I am led to believe that the attention of the Russian and Austro-Hungarian Governments has equally been directed to the necessity of immediate improvement in the administration of the European provinces of Turkey. His Majesty's Government await with interest the communication, which they are given to understand will shortly be made to the Signatory Powers of the Treaty of Berlin, as to the result of the recent conference between Count Lamsdorff and Count Goluchowski. The position of Austria-Hungary and Russia gives to those States special opportunities of observation and influence in the Balkan Peninsula; and His Majesty's Government will be ready to give their best support to any practical suggestions which the Cabinets of Vienna and St. Petersburgh may wish to press upon the Porte with the object of affording a remedy for the present evils. || In my despatch to His Majesty's Ambassador at Vienna of the 6th instant (of which your Excellency will receive a copy) I have given an account of some observations which I made on that day to the Austro-Hungarian Ambassador in reference to the Macedonian question. Lansdowne.

Nr. 12861. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Bukarest an den Minister des Ausw. Rumäniens Interessen in Mazedonien.

Bucharest, January 13, 1903. (January 19.)

My Lord, || Considerable uneasiness continues to prevail in Government circles in regard to the result of the reforms which the Governments of Austria-Hungary and Russia propose to impose on the Sultan for the better administration of the Turkish provinces of Macedonia. || Roumania cannot claim to be consulted in the above question, in which she is certainly interested, and is compelled patiently to count on the benevolent protection of Germany and Austria. || Meanwhile, the Govern-

ment will be exposed to the attacks of the Opposition, who accuse M. Sturdza and his colleagues of neglecting the interests of the Roumanian population of Macedonia. || The above Roumanians, or, as they are commonly called, Koutzo Vlachs, or „lame Wallachians", are generally stated by Roumanians of the Kingdom to number from 400 000 to 800 000, but I learn on good Bulgarian authority that they number at most 100 000. Excepting, I understand, in the neighbourhood of Monastir, they are mostly scattered throughout the south of Macedonia, and in the districts bordering on the Kingdom of Greece. || No serious politician asserts that the existence in Macedonia of 100000 or more Roumanians would give this country a claim to territorial aggrandizement in Macedonia, but the policy generally advocated is to endeavour to unite the Roumanians and Greeks, and even the resident Turkish population, in opposition to the aggressive Slav populations, and thus to save Macedonia from total annexation by the Slav races. || It is recognized that, if Bulgaria were to obtain an extension of territory in Macedonia, her next step would be to recover the Dobrudja, which, as your Lordship is aware, was given to Roumania as a compensation for the loss of Bessarabia, after the termination of the war of 1877, and which contains Constantza, the one important seaport of Roumania.

J. G. Kennedy.

Nr. 12862. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Minister des Ausw. Unterredung mit dem Sultan.

Constantinople, January 14, 1903. (January 30.)

(Extract.) || I had the honour of being received by the Sultan to-day, previous to my departure for England by Orient express. || After some casual remarks His Majesty spoke of the measures he had taken to give effect to the reforms in Macedonia which he had mentioned at my last interview. He was anxious, as he told me at the time, to appoint A. Caratheodori Pasha on the Macedonian Commission, but, on considering the matter, he found there were serious difficulties in the way. || His Majesty entered into long explanations as to the nature of these difficulties, and though I did not entirely agree with him, I cannot say that they had not some force. Without, however, appointing Caratheodori Pasha on the Commission, the Sultan said he had the benefit of his advice and experience, as he was constantly at the Palace, where he had a room at his disposal as First Translator. || His Majesty went on to say that he had

taken vigorous measures for the reorganization of the gendarmerie. He had selected a number of experienced officers and men, who had been sent to Macedonia to give effect to these reforms, and a certain number of Christians had been appointed to the force. The Commission under Hussein Hilmi Pasha was showing great energy, several hundred malefactors had been arrested and were about to be tried by a special Tribunal, and the result of each day's work was reported to him by telegraph. As soon as the reorganization was more advanced, he proposed to appoint a foreign Inspector to report on the work done. || Arrangements had been made for the regular payment of officials, so that altogether he had reason to think that he was doing all he could to meet the requirements of the situation. The task was more difficult, perhaps, than I imagined, although he did not think the fanatism of the Mussulman inhabitants was a stumbling-block to ultimate success, the feelings and prejudices of his Moslem subjects had to be counted with, and it was dangerous to arouse public animosity without having the means to cope with it by superior force. Old Servia and Albania were dangerous centres of disorders, and measures of reform could only be introduced with the aid of armed force. A display of weakness would be fatal to the authority of the central Government. His Majesty hoped that the steps he was now taking would suffice to redress the legitimate grievances of the inhabitants, but if the revolutionary Committees were encouraged from outside to create disturbances it would be the duty of the military to maintain order. His Majesty counted on His Majesty's Government supporting his efforts to improve the general situation of the country, and he trusted that he would not be prohibited from the exercise of such authority as was necessary to maintain order and protect himself against the attack and intrigues of those who were the pronounced enemies of Turkey and of tranquillity in the Balkan Peninsula. || Without entering into details as to the efforts made by His Majesty to improve the system of Administration, I told His Majesty that unless the reforms were of a practical and effective character I was afraid the result would be short-lived, and that, although the dangers threatening His Majesty next spring might possibly be staved off for the moment, they would recur again at no distant date. The measures taken by His Majesty were, no doubt, salutary as far as they went, but there was a marked difference between them and those of which His Majesty intimate his acceptance on the 18th ultimo. If I urged His Majesty not to stop at half-measures, but to take the iniative in introducing serious reforms, I was animated by the desire of seeing the general situation of the Roumelian Provinces so improved that the danger of a

political convulsion imperilling the vital interests of Turkey, as well as the peace of Europe, would be removed.

Nr. 12863. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Sofia an den Minister des Ausw. Unterredung mit dem Fürsten.

Sophia, January 22, 1903. (February 2.)

My Lord, || In conversation with me on the 14th instant Ali Ferruh Bey, the Ottoman Commissioner, knowing that I should see Prince Ferdinand the next day, begged me to speak to His Royal Highness about the Macedonian refugees, and to urge him to allow them to be sent back to their homes. He had broached the subject the evening before with His Royal Highness, but had not been able to discuss it thoroughly. || After hearing what he had to say on the subject the repatriation of these people appeared to me so desirable, and withal so feasible, that I decided to speak to Prince Ferdinand about it; and I did so, not only at an audience which His Royal Highness granted me on the morning of the 15th, but also at dinner at the Palace the same evening (having seen Ali Ferruh Bey again in the meantime). || Ali Ferruh Bay declared, and I told Prince Ferdinand, that many of the refugees wanted to go back, and had deputed some of their number to him to ask to be sent; that they were being kept here through untoward influences, which were making the most of their stories of ill-treatment, and wanted to keep the wound open, and which, when he had nearly come to terms with M. Daneff about the repatriation, had prevented it from being done; and that what he proposed was this, the refugees to be sent back in batches, those who wished to go being taken first, accompanied to the frontier by Bulgarian and Turkish officials, and to be met there by high Ottoman functionaries and a sufficient escort, and taken to their homes; after a few days ten or twelve of them to return to Bulgaria and tell their companions how they had been treated, so as to induce a second batch to go back. If it was found that their houses had been looted, compensation would be given; and he pledged his word that these people might go back to their homes without fear of molestation. || Prince Ferdinand said he hoped it would be possible to arrange for the return of the refugees, who were a burden to the country, and a possible source of trouble. But he had to consider opinion, and on that account, and also upon genuinely humanitarian grounds, he suggested a Mixed Commission to accompany them to their homes. I pointed out that the

Turkish Government could not be expected to entertain that suggestion; and I said I did not think any harm could happen, at any rate for some time to come, to people who were taken back to their homes in the solemn and public manner proposed by Ali Ferruh Bey. The Prince, who appeared particularly struck with the suggestion that they should go in batches, and that some of them should return to report the way in which they were received, said he would try to get it done, but not quite immediately; it was, of course, a matter on which he must speak to his Minister. F. Elliot.

Nr. 12864. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Wien an den Minister des Ausw. Unterredung mit Goluchowski.

Vienna, January 29, 1903. (February 2.)

My Lord, || I called this afternoon on Count Goluchowski and inquired whether he had any later news from the Balkans than that which is reported in the newspapers. || His Excellency replied that for the last couple of weeks there seemed to have been fewer fresh outrages or complications amongst the Macedonian population, and he hoped that the knowledge that Austria-Hungary and Russia were working out together a scheme of practical reforms to press upon the Porte would have a quieting effect for some time. This scheme, in its broad lines, had been already settled between Vienna and St. Petersburgh, but there were still some details to be settled which were being elaborated as rapidly as possible at Constantinople between Baron Calice and M. Zinovieff, and must then be examined by their two Governments. || I said, that as we were already within two months of the melting of the snows in the Balkans, I trusted the two Ambassadors would hurry up their work. || Count Goluchowski agreed as to the pressing necessity for haste, but said that it was also highly important that the scheme should be so far completed before presentation to the other Signatory Governments that these latter could accede without further delay, in order that it might be pressed upon the Sultan as soon as possible. || After some further remarks on the dangers anticipated for the spring, his Excellency said that he hoped to be now very soon in the position to communicate to the various Signatory Governments the complete scheme, and he trusted that your Lordship would see that the two Governments were acting in the general interest of peace, and were not seeking an opportunity to push their own interests at the expense of those of others. || I assured his Ex-

cellency that His Majesty's Government felt no jealousy whatever in this matter, and reminded him of the friendly language your Lordship had used in this respect to Count Deym on the 6th instant (recorded in your Lordship's despatch to me of that date). F. R. Plunkett.

Nr. 12865. **RUMÄNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in London. Interessen Rumäniens in Mazedonien.

Bucarest, le 17 Janvier, 1903.

M. le Ministre, || Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté le Roi de Roumanie, confiant dans les efforts des Grandes Puissances en vue d'assurer le *statu quo* dans la Péninsule Balcanique, et animé du plus vif désir de contribuer au maintien de la paix, si nécessaire au développement du Royaume, s'est abstenu de toute intervention capable d'augmenter les causes actuelles de complications. || Ni l'excitation des esprits, ni les agitations répétées dans les Balkans, ne lui ont fait abondonner l'attitude calme et réservée qu'il s'est imposée vis-à-vis des affaires de Macédoine. Notre politique n'a pas cessé un seul instant de s'inspirer des principes permanents qui l'ont toujours guidé et qui ont fait considérer le Royaume comme un représentant des grands intérêts pacifiques dans l'Orient de l'Europe. C'est uniquement dans ce sens que s'est constamment manifestée notre action. || Mais notre attitude correcte ne saurait infirmer ni les intérêts qui se rattachent pour nous aux événements pouvant surgir dans la Péninsule Balcanique, ni l'attention sérieuse que nous devons leur accorder. || En particulier les affaires de Macédoine font l'objet de nos préoccupations incessantes, car elles intéressent l'avenir d'une nombreuse population de race Roumaine et l'équilibre politique dans la Péninsule. || Je n'ai pas besoin d'insister ni de développer les raisons pour lesquelles rien de ce qui touche à cet équilibre ne saurait laisser la Roumanie indifférente. || D'autre part, les liens qui nous unissent aux Roumains de Macédoine ne nous permettent pas de nous désintéresser de leur sort. Le désir de l'Europe de voir améliorer la situation des populations de la Turquie ne se réduit certainement pas aux seules relations entre Musulmans et Chrétiens, mais s'étend aussi aux rapports d'égalité qui doivent exister entre les différentes nationalités Chrétiennes. C'est sous ce point de vue que nous avons toujours envisagé nos obligations envers les populations Roumaines, pour la culture desquelles nous avons déjà fait tant de sacrifices pécuniaires. || La cause que nous soutenons est si juste qu'il était indiqué de ne pas la troubler par des manifestations pouvant compliquer davantage une situation déjà si

délicate. || La prudence patiente du royaume et son souci constant à mettre d'accord ses intérêts propres avec ceux de la paix Européenne ont certainement été appréciés par le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique. || Aussi ne fera-t-il pas des difficultés à reconnaître le devoir qui s'imposait à nous de soumettre à son attention sympathique et bienveillante la question que je viens d'exposer et voudra-t-il bien admettre le droit pour la population Roumaine de Turquie d'être traitée sur le pied d'une parfaite égalité avec toutes les autres populations. || Après avoir fait valoir les raisons qui précèdent dans vos conversations avec son Excellence M. le Marquis de Lansdowne, vous voudrez bien lui donner lecture de la présente dépêche et, si elle vous le demande, lui en laisser copie.

J. T. G. Bratiano.

Nr. 12866. BULGARIEN. — Interpellationen in der Sobranje über die mazedonische Angelegenheit.

5. Februar, 1903.

M. Strashimiroff, dissident Democrat, asked the Prime Minister whether he considered the proceeding of the Superior Macedonian Committee in issuing a Circular inviting all Macedonians in Bulgaria to take part in the impending insurrection to be within the limits of legality. || M. Daneff (Prime Minister): The proceeding has attracted the attention of the Government. I shall, in a few days, have an opportunity, in answering M. Takeff's interpellation, of communicating to the House the measures we propose to take against the illegal action of the Macedonian Committee. (His Excellency was evidently unaware that M. Takeff's interpellation was the next order.) || M. Takeff, Karavelist Democrat, put the following questions: — || 1. Is the Minister aware that a portion of our brethren beyond the Rilo Mountain have risen in arms to obtain *de facto* those rights, human and civil, which were *de jure* secured to them by Article XXIII of the Treaty of Berlin? || 2. Is the Minister aware that this rising has been provoked by the indescribable outrages against life, honour, and property of various Dere Beys, and instruments of the authorities? || 3. If all this is known to the Minister, what steps has he taken for the alleviation of the fate of these our brethren? || 4. Does not the Minister think that the time has come for the Government to urge upon the Great Powers, signatories of the Treaty of Berlin, the application of Article XXIII? || 5. Is it true that the Government has resolved to close the frontier against Macedonian refugees? If so, is not this measure not only inhuman, but contrary to the principles of international law, which opens

wide the doors of free States to compulsory or voluntary emigrants? In developing his interpellation, M. Takeff said he would not describe the shocking facts of the Macedonian sufferings, which are sufficiently depicted in the French Yellow Book.

M. Daneff considered the interpellation in opportune, for it was at present impossible to communicate anything about the intentions of Russia. At present, said the Minister, the important point is, what is the policy of the Government with regard to the Macedonian question. There are two questions, the emigrant question and the refugee question. The Government has not taken, and will not take, any measures to close the frontier to the refugees. In such cases, every State has the right, nay! the moral duty, to keep its frontier open. There are now at the frontier a considerable number of refugees. Far from trying to make capital out of this fact, the Government has exerted itself about the repatriation of the refugees; it discussed the matter with the Turkish Representative, but before a definite result could be reached, the number of the refugees increased, and the character of the movement became more acute, so that the negotiations had to be abandoned. Some assert that the Bulgarian Government has carried on a lively agitation to induce these people to leave their homes; but everyone knows with what difficulty a Bulgarian peasant resigns himself to leave his native place without serious cause. The Government has tried to persuade the refugees of the good intentions of the Turkish Government, but they refuse to believe in them, and decline to return to Macedonia. Such being the case, no Bulgarian Government has the right to compel them to return, although they are a great burden upon the State and upon society. This qustion will settle itself when the refugees are convinced that tranquillity and order reign at their homes. || The question of the Macedonian emigration to Bulgaria is quite different. The Macedonian emigrants cannot abandon interest in their native country and their countrymen. The Government can never detain a man who has made up his mind to give his life for his country; but the limits of legality must not be overstepped. This damages not only Bulgaria but also the Macedonian cause itself. The Minister appealed to public opinion not to allow itself to be moved by fine speeches and fiery appeals. As the Government must be able to repel any charge of disloyal action on the part of the Great Powers, it must not hesitate to take the strongest measures against those who transgress the laws of the land. This the Government will do, in the interest not only of Bulgaria but of Macedonia. || M. Strashimiroff, referring to the Report of the Turkish Commercial Agent at Rustchuk to the effect that bands amounting to over 6000 men were organized for

the invasion of Macedonia, said that the superior Macedonian Committee gave colour to this charge by the way it is collecting money, &c., and that it had transgressed the limits of the law and became a revolutionary institution; and he asked whether the Government intended to proceed against it. The Bulgarians of Macedonia, he said, have no need of help from here. They are in sufficient strength to defend themselves; the „organization intérieure“ has 2000 fighting men at its disposal, and its organization is such that it divides authority with the Turkish Administration and even with the Exarchate, even divorce matters beings referred to it. Of itself it gives the Turks no opportunity to supress it, but a pretext is given by the incursions of the bands, which thus do incalculable mischief; besides running the risk of provoking a conflict between Bulgaria and Turkey, or at least of rendering necessary a mobilization, which would entail enormous expense upon this country. He therefore called upon the Government to keep the Macedonian Committee in order. || A Mussulman deputy was understood to compare the emigration from Macedonia into Bulgaria with the emigration of Mussulmans from Bulgaria into Turkey, and to ascribe the latter to similar causes. This caused great uproar, and the Deputy denied having intended to convey that the emigration of Mussulmans is caused by ill-treatment. His speech has, however, not been reported, and accounts differ considerably as to what he really said. || The discussion ended with the adoption of an Order of the Day expression confidence in the Government.

Nr. 12867. **BULGARIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an die Vertreter in Paris, Petersburg, Wien. Protest gegen die türkischen Maßregeln.

Sofie, le 23 Janvier (5 Février), 1903.

D'Après les renseignements parvenus au Gouvernement Princier, les préparatifs militaires entrepris dernièrement par la Turquie dépassent de beaucoup les mesures qu'elle pourrait prendre pour parer à l'éventualité d'un soulèvement en Macédoine. Il est certain que ces préparatifs sont dirigés contre la Bulgarie, d'autant plus que la majeure partie des troupes Ottomans est massée sur notre frontière sud-est, dans la région d'Adrianople. Un grand nombre d'officiers supérieurs de l'état-major Ottoman s'occupent activement de travaux de fortification sur la ligne frontière dans ces parages. || D'autre part, les bruits faux que le Gouvernement Impérial ne cesse de répandre systématiquement sur de prétendus mauvais traitements infligés à la population Mussulmane en Bulgarie, et sur de

prétendues formations à Roustchouk de bandes révolutionaires et autres, prouvent à l'évidence que la Sublime Porte cherche un prétexte pour justifier une agression contre la Bulgarie. || Cet état de choses agite les esprits dans le pays et oblige le Gouvernement Princier de prendre des mesures pour être prêt à toute éventualité. || La mise à exécution de pareilles mesures de notre part pouvant avoir pour effet de rendre encore plus difficile la tâche des Grandes Puissances d'arriver à un réglement pacifique de la question Macédonienne, le Gouvernement Princier croit de son devoir d'en prévenir les Puissances avant de prendre une décision définitive à ce sujet. || En conséquence, j'ai l'honneur de vous prier de vouloir bien communiquer ce qui précède au Gouvernement auprès duquel vous êtes accrédité, en demandant instamment que des démarches pressantes soient faites auprès de Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan pour la cessation immédiate des préparatifs militaires de la Turquie.

Nr. 12868. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Wien. Unterredung mit dem österreich-ungarischen Botschafter über die österreichisch-russische Note an die Pforte.

Foreign Office, February 17, 1903.

Sir, || The Austro-Hungarian Ambassador called upon me to-day and left with me a Memorandum, of which a copy is inclosed, containing an account of the scheme of reforms which the Austro-Hungarian and Russian Governments intend to recommend to the Sultan for adoption in Macedonia. || His Excellency was instructed to express the hope of the Austro-Hungarian Government that His Majesty's Government would accept the scheme in principle and would give it their support at Constantinople. Count Deym explained to me that the scheme was for the moment communicated to us in strict confidence, and the Austro-Hungarian Government earnestly desired that its contents should not be made public until it had been presented to the Sultan. The two Powers hoped to be able to do this on the 19th instant, and they trusted that His Majesty's Government would give them at once some indication of their attitude. || In reply to an observation of mine, Count Deym admitted that His Majesty's Government could scarcely be expected to commit themselves finally with regard to a scheme which they had had no sufficient opportunity of examining. He went on to say that for the moment all that was desired was that we should give our consent to those portions of it which related to the most urgently necessary steps for ameliorating

the situation in the three vilayets. Such consent on our part would be without prejudice to any supplementary modifications („compléments“) which might eventually be found necessary should experience show that the original proposals were insufficient. || After listening to his Excellency's remarks, I made to him a statement to the following effect, which I afterwards communicated to him in writing: —

1. His Majesty's Government have for a long time past been deeply convinced of the necessity for the introduction of measures of practical reform in Macedonia. They have constantly urged the adoption of such reforms upon the Turkish Government. || 2. The present situation in the Balkan Peninsula is such that any further delay in the introduction of such reforms might be fraught with the most disastrous consequences. || 3. His Majesty's Government have obviously not had time in which to examine with the care it deserves the scheme put forward by the two Powers. If, however, they were to put forward an alternative scheme of their own the discussions which would arise would certainly involve delay for which His Majesty's Government would, in some measure at all events, be responsible. || 4. The scheme of the two Powers, so far as we understand it, contains some features which would probably find a place in any scheme of reform which the Powers would be likely to support. || 5. His Majesty's Government are therefore prepared to accept it in principle, and, subject to the reservations which follow, to recommend it to the Sultan for his acceptance. || 6. They reserve, however, to themselves the right of recommending to the Powers any modifications which may suggest themselves after the scheme has been further examined and discussed. || 7. They desire in particular to have it understood that their provisional acceptance of the scheme will not, in the event of its disappointing the expectations of its framers, and proving inadequate as a remedy, be regarded by His Majesty's Government as precluding them from putting forward or supporting, either during the tenure of office of the Inspector-General or at any future time, alternative proposals with the same object. || They earnestly trust that neither Austria-Hungary nor Russia, nor, indeed, any of the Signatory Powers, will, at this juncture, use language or take action which might unnecessarily hamper their freedom of action hereafter, or render it difficult to effect changes either in the scheme itself or in the personal of the administration, if during the next three years experience should prove that such changes are desirable.

Lansdowne.

Nr. 12869. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Minister des Ausw. Österreich-Ungarn und Rußland haben der Pforte ihre Reformvorschläge mitgeteilt.

Pera, February 21, 1903. (February 21.)

(Telegraphic.) || This afternoon the Russian and Austrian Ambassadors presented to the Porte their proposals for reforms in the Vilayets of Salonica, Monastir, and Kossovo. I am informed by the French and Italian Ambassadors that they have been instructed by their Governments to support the proposals, and I understand that the German Ambassador has similar instructions.

Nr. 12870. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Derselbe an Denselben. Hat die Reformvorschläge unterstützt.

Pera, February 23, 1903. (February 23.)

(Telegraphic.) || I informed the Grand Vizier to-day that His Majesty's Government supported the scheme of reforms in Macedonia which was presented to the Porte on the 21st instant by the Austrian and Russian Ambassadors, and that they hoped that they would be accepted and put into effective execution without delay. || His Highness replied that a mazbata of the Council of Ministers reported in favour of these reforms yesterday, and that an Imperial Iradé accepting them without modifications had already been issued.

Nr. 12871. ÖSTERREICH-UNGARN und RUSSLAND. — Reformplan für Mazedonien.

(Communicated by Count Deym, February 27, 1903.)

Die österreichisch-ungarische und die russische Regierung, von dem aufrichtigen Wunsche beseelt, die Ursachen der seit einiger Zeit in den Vilajets von Salonich, Kossowo, und Monastir herrschenden Unruhen zu beseitigen, sind zur Überzeugung gelangt, daß dieses Ziel nur durch Reformen erreicht werden kann, welche eine Verbesserung der Lage der Bevölkerung in jenen Vilajets herbeizuführen geeignet sind. || Wie aus den vor kurzem von der Hohen Pforte an die Botschafter in Konstantinopel gerichteten Mitteilungen hervorgeht, hat die kaiserlich ottomanische Regierung selbst die Notwendigkeit erkannt, auf Mittel bedacht zu sein, für eine strengere Einhaltung der Gesetze zu sorgen und die bestehenden Miß-

bräuche zu beseitigen. || Die Regierungen von Österreich-Ungarn und Rußland, von diesen guten Absichten Akt nehmend, haben indessen geglaubt, daß es im Interesse der Aufrechthaltung der Ruhe und Ordnung in den erwähnten Gegenden von der höchsten Wichtigkeit wäre, die neuerdings getroffenen Anordnungen zu ergänzen, und, von diesem Gedanken geleitet, sind sie übereinstimmend zu der Ansicht gelangt, daß es notwendig ist, der kaiserlich ottomanischen Regierung die Anwendung gewisser Maßregeln zu empfehlen, die sich folgendermaßen resumiren lassen: — || Um den Erfolg der dem Generalinspektor anvertrauten Aufgabe zu sichern, wird dieser auf seinem Posten für eine Reihe von Jahren, welche im voraus zu bestimmen ist, erhalten und vor Ablauf dieser Periode nicht abberufen werden, ohne daß die Mächte vorher darüber zu Rate gezogen worden sind. Er wird das Recht haben, wenn die Aufrechthaltung der öffentlichen Ruhe es erfordert, über die ottomanischen Truppen zu verfügen, ohne in jedem einzelnen Falle an die Zentralregierung herantreten zu müssen. Die Valis werden verpflichtet sein, sich den Instruktionen des Generalinspektors strenge zu fügen. || Für die Reorganisation der Polizei und der Gendarmerie wird sich die ottomanische Regierung des Beistandes auswärtiger Fachmänner zu bedienen haben. Die Gendarmerie wird aus Christen und Muselmanen in einem der Zusammensetzung der Bevölkerung der betreffenden Ortschaften entsprechenden Verhältnisse gebildet sein. Die Feldhüter werden dort den Christen entnommen werden, wo die Majorität der Bevölkerung christlich ist. || Mit Rücksicht auf die Belästigungen und Ausschreitungen, unter welchen die christliche Bevölkerung seitens gewisser arnautischer Übeltäter nur zu oft zu leiden hat, sowie in Anbetracht dessen, daß die von Letzteren begangenen Verbrechen und Delikte in der Mehrzahl der Fälle unbestraft bleiben, wird die ottomanische Regierung ohne Verzug für die Mittel Sorge tragen, um diesem Zustande ein Ende zu setzen. || Da durch die infolge der letzten Unruhen in den drei Vilajets vorgekommenen zahlreichen Verhaftungen die Gemüter dortselbst erregt wurden, wird die kaiserliche Regierung, um die Rückkehr zur normalen Situation zu beschleunigen, allen Personen, welche wegen politischer Delikte angeklagt oder verurteilt sind, sowie den Ausgewanderten eine Amnestie gewähren. || Um ein regelmäßiges Funktionieren der lokalen Einrichtungen sicher zu stellen, wird in jedem Vilajet ein Budget der Einnahmen und Ausgaben aufgestellt werden und die Einkünfte der Provinz, welche von der kaiserlich ottomanischen Bank zu kontrollieren sind, werden in erster Reihe für die Bedürfnisse der Lokalverwaltung, inbegriffen die Bezahlung der Zivil- und Militärgehalte, bestimmt sein. || Die Art der Einhebung des Zehents

wird abgeändert und die Generalverpachtung derselben abgeschafft werden.

Nr. 12872. **TÜRKEI.** — Der Botschafter in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Mitteilung der Maßregeln zur Aufrechthaltung der Ordnung.

(Received, February 26.)

L'ambassadeur de Turquie présente ses compliments au Marquis de Lansdowne et a l'honneur de transmettre à sa Seigneurie les informations suivantes provenant de divers documents officiels communiqués dans ces derniers temps à Musurus Pacha par le Ministère Impérial des Affaires Étrangères et relatifs aux mesures qui ont été prises par les autorités locales jusqu'au 30 du mois dernier, pour maintenir l'ordre dans les provinces Européennes de la Turquie. || Ainsi que sa Seigneurie pourra s'en convaincre par la lecture de ce qui suit, il y a eu de nombreuses arrestations de criminels et de malfaiteurs, tant Musulmans que Chrétiens; lesdites autorités n'ont fait aucune distinction entre les diverses races et religions, ou sectes, pour sévir contre les coupables, quels qu'ils fussent, et elles ont également poursuivi les agitateurs et les révolutionnaires et repoussé les incursions des bandes armées Bulgares. || Sa Seigneurie verra, en outre, en parcourant cet exposé, que, tandis que la plus grande fermeté a été déployée par les Gouverneurs-Généraux Ottomans sur le territoire de l'Empire, il y a eu malheureusement bien moins de vigilance de la part des autorités Bulgares en Bulgarie et qu'il ressort des rapports du Commissaire Impérial à Sophia que les habitants Musulmans de plusieurs localités sises dans la Principauté et en Roumélie-Orientale ont été victimes d'actes d'agression de la part de Chrétiens: || Dans l'espace de temps susmentionné plus de mille arrestations ont été opérées dans les vilayets de Kossovo, Salonique, Monastir, Scutari, et Andrinople. Voici d'ailleurs quelques exemples qui démontrent l'activité des autorités Impériales: || Le Vali de Kossovo, dans un télégramme du 18 Janvier dernier, a fait savoir que quatre Musulmans, qui avaient dévalisé quelques Chrétiens de Kiuprulu, ont été arrêtés et emprisonnés, ainsi que dix-sept malfaiteurs dans les cazas d'Orkhanie, de Kila, et de Consanova et que d'autres, tels que le nommé Ahmed Redjeb, condamné pour une affaire de meurtre, et deux malfaiteurs qui avaient pris la fuite, se sont livrés eux-mêmes aux autorités d'Uskub. Le Vali de Monastir a télégraphié, le 18 Janvier, que 197 criminels avaient été arrêtés dans le sandjack de Monastir, 284 dans celui de Kidridjé, 445 à Sefidjé, et 98 à Elbassan. || Le même Vali a

mande, le 19 Janvier, que cinq Musulmans accusés de complicité dans l'assassinat de deux enfants Chrétiens à Kirtsovo ont été arrêtés. ‖ Le 24 Janvier, le Vali de Kossovo a informé la Sublime Porte qu'une trentaine de malfaiteurs, d'anciens repris de justice et de déserteurs originaires d'Orkhanié et de Kalkandelen avaient été arrêtés et imprisonnés; qu'une quinzaine de brigands et de recéleurs avaient été capturés dans divers villages des environs d'Ipek; qu'un grand nombre de chevaux qu'ils avaient enlevés avaient été retrouvés et rendus à leurs propriétaires; que les nommés Suléïman et Rachid, qui avaient blessé la femme de Youvan, morte depuis des suites de ses blessures, et le cabaretier Petro, qui avait blessé un soldat à Osmanié, avaient été mis en état d'arrestation. Dans le même rapport ledit Vali a relaté qu'un brigand du nom de Rifaat et le nommé Ibrahim, qui avait assassiné un villageois de Prechtina, venaient d'être arrêtés. ‖ Dans une autre communication adressée le 20 Janvier au Ministère Impérial des Affaires Étrangères le même Vali, rendant compte de la disparition du nommé Stoyan, de Palekan, a annoncé que les nommés Stovika, Taraïko, Philippe, et la femme Prakeva, qui avaient eu à se plaindre de lui et qui étaient soupçonnés de l'avoir tué, avaient été arrêtés et remis aux autorités judiciaires.

Pour faciliter la poursuite de quelques malfaiteurs en fuite, le Ministère Impérial de la Guerre a, sur la demande du Vali, de Kossovo, faite le 24 Janvier dernier, expédié un détachement de troupes régulières à Kalkandelen pur y renforcer la gendarmerie et ce détachement a arrêté et livré à la justice 19 déserteurs du village de Badolichta, 5 malfaiteurs du même village, et 8 autres du village de Kiaffé. ‖ Le 27 Janvier, le Grand Vézirat a communiqué au Ministère Impérial des Affaires Étrangères un rapport du Gouverneur-Général de Monastir au sujet d'un incendie au Monastère de Tchoula, dans le district de Kesrié. Le dit Gouverneur-Général a informé, dans son compte rendu de ce sinistre, que, quoique cet incendie ne parût pas avoir été dû à la malveillance, deux Musulmans, coldjis de la Régie des Tabacs, qui occupaient des chambres dans le monastère, avaient été arrêtés comme suspects. ‖ Quant à Scutari, un télégramme des autorités de ce vilayet, en date du 25 Janvier, a fait savoir que les réformes ordonnées par Sa Majesté Impériale le Sultan étaient en voie d'exécution, que la police et la gendarmerie étaient réorganisées et qu'un grand nombre de malfaiteurs avaient été arrêtés. ‖ De leur côté le Vali de Salonique a donné avis, le 24 Janvier, de l'arrestation d'un brigand redoutable nommé Véli, et le Vali de Monastir a fait savoir que le brigand Nézir, du Caza de Starva, condamné par défaut à la peine de mort, avait été livré aux autorités locales.

Pour ce qui concerne les agitateurs et les bandes armées Bulgares, le Vali de Salonique a informé le Gouvernement Impérial qu'une bande de 300 brigands Bulgares, sous le commandement du Voïvode Ilia, n'ayant pu, à cause de la neige, franchir les Balkans, était rentrée à Laznié après s'être séparée en deux groupes. Il a aussi envoyé un autre rapport sous la même date, dans lequel il a porté à la connaissance du Gouvernement Impérial qu'une autre bande Bulgare, sous le commandement de Vizanof Rila et de Hassaïneff Fenesilof, avait fait son apparition dans les environs de Razlik et que d'après ses renseignements elle venait de se subdiviser en plusieurs groupes dans le but de commettre des actes d'agression sur divers points du territoire Ottoman. Le même Vali a ajouté que le Commandant Militaire s'occupait de prendre toutes les dispositions nécessaires à cet égard. || Le 24 Janvier, l'Agent Commercial Ottoman à Roustchouk a adressé un long rapport au Ministère Impérial des Affaires Étrangères sur la formation de sept bandes en vue d'incursions au printemps prochain dans la Roumélie. || D'autre part, le Vali de Monastir a télégraphié le 29 Janvier qu'une bande Bulgare armée sous le commandement de Bujiksiz Christo, poursuivie par des soldats Ottomans dans le Caza d'Ohri, avait tiré sur eux et que dans cette rencontre Christo et 3 de ses compagnons avaient été tués, 4 autres blessés et 16 capturés, tandis que du côté des troupes Impériales 2 hommes avaient été tués et 2 blessés. || Dans un autre télégramme du même jour le Vali a déclaré que parmi les révolutionnaires arrêtés quelques-uns ont fait des dépositions établissant que cette bande avait commis plusieurs méfaits à Ohri et tué quatre femmes dans le village de Kilissofdja. || A la même date, le Commissaire Impérial à Sophia a fait savoir que les agents des Comités Bulgares, pour introduire clandestinement des armes et des écrits séditieux dans les provinces limitrophes de l'Empire, faisaient souvent usage de caisses à double fond. || Quant à la situation des Musulmans en Bulgarie et dans la Roumélie-Orientale, le Commissaire Impérial à Sophia fait connaître, dans un rapport adressé le 30 Janvier au Grand Vézirat, que pendant la nuit du 9 Janvier une cinquantaine de Bulgares ont attaqué les maisons des habitants Musulmans du village de Pavlesco et brisé portes et fenêtres sans que la police eût jugé à propos d'intervenir. Le Commissaire Impérial a ajouté les détails suivants: — || Un jeune garçon Musulman, ayant dans son effroi tiré en l'air un coup de revolver, a été cruellement battu par les Bulgares. Ceux-ci, non contents de cette agression, ont brisé encore les portes et les fenêtres de la mosquée et mis en pièces les nattes et les tapis dont ils ont suspendu, en croix, les morceaux sur le minaret. Ils ont également attaqué une autre maison

Turque pour enlever une jeune fille. || Dans la nuit du 25 Décembre dernier, au moment où les Musulmans du village de Marcovo, près de Philippopoli, se trouvaient réunis dans l'école contiguë à la mosquée pour la lecture du Mevloud, deux Bulgares ont tiré deux coups de revolver sur les fenêtres de l'école, et jeté ainsi l'alarme et la consternation parmi les assistants. || En terminant, il convient de mentionner que selon le procès-verbal de l'enquête effectuée par les autorités Impériales au sujet des méfaits attribués à quelques réservistes à Boroni Zir, dans le district de Timour Hissar, les plaignants n'ont pu ni prouver les méfaits dont ils auraient été les victimes, ni donner le signalement de leurs prétendus auteurs, et que, du reste, il ne se serait agi que de délits sans importance, tels que vol de quelques fruits, d'objets d'habillement, &c. || Tel est l'exposé des mesures prises par les autorités Impériales en Roumélie contre les malfaiteurs jusqu'au 30 du mois dernier, ainsi que des détails de rencontres entre les troupes Ottomanes et les bandes armées Bulgares, et des méfaits commis par des Chrétiens en Bulgarie et dans la Roumélie-Orientale au préjudice des Musulmans. || Musurus Pacha se réserve de transmettre ultérieurement au Marquis de Lansdowne d'autres informations sur cette situation, afin de lui faire connaître l'état de choses, non pas d'après des rumeurs plus ou moins dignes de foi, mais tel qu'il est établi et constaté par des rapports authentiques émanés de hauts fonctionnaires Ottomans. || Pour éviter des longueurs, tous les noms des malfaiteurs et des localités mentionnés plus haut n'ont pas été donnés, mais ils sont consignés dans des pièces officielles qui se trouvent à l'Ambassade Impériale.

Ambassade Impériale, de Turquie Londres, le 22 Février, 1903.

Nr. 12873. **TÜRKEI.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den österreichischen Botschafter. Antwort auf den Reformvorschlag Nr. 12869.

Le Gouvernement Impérial ayant examiné le Mémoire que son Excellence M. l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté Impériale et Royale Apostolique a bien voulu remettre à la Sublime Porte en date du 21 de ce mois et qui contient certaines recommandations au sujet des affaires administratives, judiciaires, et financières des provinces de la Roumélie, a constaté que les mesures y mentionnées sont le complément de celles déjà arrêtées par Iradé Impérial et dont on a commencé l'application. || Aussi, la Sublime Porte a l'honneur d'informer son Excellence M. l'Ambassadeur de Sa Majesté l'Empereur et Roi que le Gouvernement Impérial a adhéré

aux dites mesures, qui sont dictées par une amitié sincère, et ordonné aux Départements compétents de les mettre à exécution.

Nr. 12874. RUSSLAND. — Auszug aus dem „Journal de Saint-Pétersbourg".

13 (26) Februar 1903.

Le „Messager Officiel" publie aujourd'hui la communication suivante: — || „La communication officielle du 30 Novembre de l'année dernière a fait connaître les décisions prises par la Russie au début même des troubles dans la Péninsule Balkanique, pour éviter des complications possibles dans la Turquie d'Europe. || „Le Gouvernement Impérial, ayant suivi avec une constante sollicitude la vie politique des populations coreligionnaires de la Russie, a été informé à temps par ses agents de l'état réel des choses et n'a cessé d'attirer l'attention la plus sérieuse de la Porte sur la nécessité urgente d'améliorer la situation des habitants Chrétiens des Vilayets de Salonique, Kossovo, et Monastir. || „L'Ambassadeur de Russie à Constantinople, appelé à Yalta au mois d'Octobre de l'année dernière, a été chargé d'élaborer un projet des réformes les plus urgentes, et de signaler à la Porte l'impérieuse nécessité de mettre celles-ci à exécution, afin d'écarter dans leur source, les causes de mécontentement parmi ses sujets. || „C'est dans ce même sens qu'a été faite une communication à l'Ambassadeur Extraordinaire Ottoman, Turkhan Pacha, envoyé par le Sultan à Livadia pour saluer Sa Majesté l'Empereur. || „Le Gouvernement Ottoman s'est déclaré prêt à suivre ces conseils amicaux. Un Iradé du Sultan, promulgué en Novembre 1902, concernant les réformes dans les provinces Européenes de la Turquie, n'a pas présenté toutefois des garanties suffisantes pour l'amélioration nécessaire du sort de la population Chrétienne; aussi n'a-t-il pas atteint le but poursuivi — l'apaisement général. || „D'un autre côté, malgré les conseils bienveillants donnés aux États Balkaniques, l'action subversive des Comités Révolutionnaires a continué à produire des effets néfastes en incitant la population à un soulèvement contre l'autorité légale. || „En raison de cette situation alarmante, Sa Majesté l'Empereur a daigné charger le Ministre des Affaires Étrangères, au commencement de Décembre de l'année dernière, de se rendre dans les capitales de la Serbie et de la Bulgarie pour transmettre au Roi Alexandre et au Prince Ferdinand, en l'auguste nom de Sa Majesté Impériale, une communication dans le sens suivant: || „La Russie, qui, de tout temps, a témoigné l'intérêt le plus vif pour le sort des populations Chrétiennes de la Turquie, consacre en ce moment même tous ses efforts

à engager le Gouvernement Ottoman à introduire le plus tôt possible des réformes dans les trois vilayets d'Europe. Pour remplir avec succès cette tâche, il est également nécessaire que, de leur côté, les États Slaves, prenant les mesures en leur pouvoir pour sauvegarder la tranquillité dans la Péninsule Balkanique, réagissent contre des troubles dangereux et toutes menées révolutionnaires. Ce n'est qu'à ces conditions qu'ils peuvent compter fermement sur le puissant appui de la Russie. || „Sa Majesté le Roi de Serbie et Son Altesse Royale le Prince de Bulgarie, en réponse aux conseils qui leur ont été donnés au nom de Sa Majesté l'Empereur, n'ont pas manqué d'assurer le Secrétaire d'État, Comte Lamsdorff, que leurs Gouvernements s'appliqueraient, en conformité des indications bienveillantes du Monarque Russe, à mettre fin à toute agitation ultérieure de la part des Sociétés et des Comités Révolutionnaires, dans l'attente des résultats de l'action de la Russie en faveur des populations Chrétiennes de l'Empire Ottoman. || „Ces promesses ont été remplies, et le Gouvernement Impérial n'a pas manqué de témoigner sa complète approbation au Gouvernement Bulgare pour les mesures prises par lui ces derniers temps contre les Comités Révolutionnaires. || „Après sa visite en Serbie et en Bulgarie, le Secrétaire d'État, Comte Lamsdorff, d'autorisation de Sa Majesté l'Empereur, s'est rendu à Vienne, où ont eu lieu, entre les Ministres des Affaires Étrangères des deux Empires voisins et amis, conformément à l'arragement de 1897, des conférences spéciales qui ont abouti à la fixation des principes généraux devant servir de bases aux réformes projetées dans les trois vilayets Turcs. || „Le programme commun, ainsi établi, a été communiqué au commencement de Janvier dernier aux Ambassadeurs de Russie et d'Autriche-Hongrie à Constantinople, lesquels ont été chargés, après un examen des conditions locales, d'élaborer sur cette base un projet plus détaillé de mesures ayant pour objet une amélioration efficace du sort de la population des provinces de Salonique, Kossovo, et Monastir. || „Le projet élaboré par le Conseiller Privé actuel Zinoview et le Baron de Calice a reçu l'approbation des deux Gouvernements et a été ensuite communiqué confidentiellement le 4 (17) Février courant aux Grandes Puissances signataires du Traité de Berlin de 1878, avec prière, dans le cas où ils se montreraient favorables aux réformes projetées, de prêter leur concours aux démarches instantes de la Russie et de l'Autriche-Hongrie à Constantinople. || „La France, l'Italie, l'Allemagne, et l'Angleterre se sont déclarées entièrement prêtes à appuyer auprès de la Porte le projet de réformes élaboré par la Russie et l'Autriche-Hongrie. Les Ambassadeurs Russe et Austro-Hongrois ont été chargés, ensuite, au nom de leurs Gouverne-

ments, de remettre au Sultan ce projet de réformes, qui, dans ses traits généraux, se présente comme suit: — ‖ „Pour assurer le succès de la mission confiée, en vertu de l'Iradé du Sultan, à l'Inspecteur-Général, celui-ci sera maintenu à son poste pour une période de plusieurs années, déterminée d'avance, et il ne sera pas révoqué avant l'expiration de cette période sans que les Puissances aient été préalablement consultées à ce sujet. Il aura la faculté de se servir, si le maintien de l'ordre public le rend nécessaire, des troupes Ottomanes, sans avoir chaque fois recours au Gouvernement Central. ‖ „Les Valis seront tenus de se conformer strictement à ses instructions. ‖ „Pour la réorganisation de la police et de la gendarmerie, le Gouvernement Ottoman se servira du concours de spécialistes étrangers. La gendarmerie sera composée de Chrétiens et de Musulmans dans une proportion analogue à celle des populations des localités en question. ‖ „Les gardes champêtres seront Chrétiens là où la majorité de la population est Chrétienne. ‖ „Vu les vexations et les excès dont la population Chrétienne n'a que trop souvent à souffrir de la part de certains malfaiteurs Arnaoutes, et vu que les crimes et délits commis par ces derniers restent, dans la plupart des cas, impunis, le Gouvernement Ottoman avisera sans retard aux moyens de mettre fin à cet état de choses. ‖ „Les nombreuses arrestations opérées à la suite des derniers troubles dans les trois vilayets, y ayant excité les esprits, le Gouvernement Ottoman, pour accélérer le retour à une situation normale, accordera une amnistie à tous les accusés ou condamnés pour faits politiques, ainsi qu'aux émigrés. ‖ „Pour assurer le fonctionnement régulier des institutions locales, un budget des revenus et des dépenses sera dressé dans chaque vilayet, et les perceptions provinciales, contrôlées par la Banque Impériale Ottomane, seront destinées en premier lieu aux besoins de l'Administration Locale, le payement des services civil et militaire y compris. Le mode de perception des dîmes sera modifié et l'affermage en gros aboli. ‖ „Le Gouvernement Ottoman, appréciant toute la portée des démarches faites auprès de lui, a adhéré au projet susmentionné et a donné aux organes locaux de l'Administration Turque des ordres catégoriques pour procéder immédiatement à l'exécution des réformes projetées.‖ „On ne saurait ne pas reconnaître que les mesures susindiquées, qui, naturellement, peuvent être l'objet d'un large développement dans l'avenir, sont suffisantes pour assurer pleinement dans les conjonctures présentes une amélioration efficace du sort des populations Chrétiennes des trois vilayets. ‖ „En même temps devra être instituée dans certaines localités des trois vilayets, sous la direction des Ambassadeurs à Constantinople, une active surveillance Consulaire de l'application des réformes convenues. ‖

„En informant les Représentants et les Agents Russes dans la Péninsule Balkanique, des résultats actuellement obtenus pour l'amélioration du sort de la population Chrétienne de Turquie, le Gouvernement Impérial a jugé nécessaire de confirmer à nouveau, afin d'en étendre la connaissance le plus possible parmi les populations Slaves, les principes fondamentaux dont il s'inspire en cette circonstance. || „Appelés à une existence indépendante au prix de sacrifices incalculables faits par la Russie, les États Balkaniques peuvent compter avec une pleine assurance sur la sollicitude constante du Gouvernement Impérial pour leurs besoins réels, et sur sa puissante protection pour les nécessités vitales et les intérêts moraux des populations Chrétiennes de la Turquie. || „Cependant ils ne doivent pas perdre de vue que la Russie ne sacrifierait ni une goutte du sang de ses fils ni la plus petite parcelle de l'avoir du peuple Russe, si les États Slaves, malgré les conseils de sagesse qui leur ont été donnés d'avance, cherchaient à porter atteinte par des moyens violents et révolutionnaires à l'ordre de choses établi dans la Péninsule des Balkans."

Nr. 12875. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Konstantinopel an den Minister des Ausw. Wirkung des österreichisch-russischen Reformvorschlags.

Constantinople, March 4, 1903. (March 10.)

My Lord, || I have the honour to report that at an audience which the Austrian and Russian Ambassadors had with His Imperial Majesty the Sultan on Friday last, they expressed the satisfaction of their respective Governments at the prompt acceptance by His Majesty of the reforms they had suggested in the administration of the Roumelian provinces of Turkey. His Imperial Majesty replied that he was grateful for the suggestions, and for the manner in which they had been made to him. His Majesty considered these reforms to be in the interests of his country, and promised that the suggestions now adopted would be faithfully carried out. || I have made inquiries of the Minister for Foreign Affairs as to the truth of the rumour that the proposed reforms are to be applied in all the six vilayets of European Turkey, and his Excellency informs me that the Sultan's Iradé extends to the six provinces, and not only to the three vilayets of Salonica, Kossovo, and Monastir. His Excellency explains that the reforms originally proposed by the Sultan were for the whole of European Turkey, and that as the Austrian and Russian suggestions are merely improvements of the original scheme they are equally applicable to all the six vilayets, in all of which mea-

sures are now being adopted to put them into execution. || The Russian Ambassador read to me to-day an instruction which, in concert with the Austrian Ambassador, he was about to address to their respective Consuls, telling them to watch the execution of the reforms, to consult together with a view to joint representations to the Inspector-General and the Valis, and in case of divergence in their opinions to refer to their respective Embassies for instructions. || I noticed that there was no reference in the instructions to consulting with or taking the opinion of the Consuls of other European Powers, and upon my drawing M. Zinovieff's attention to this point, he said that no doubt they would also be consulted, and that the two Governments counted on their support and good-will. N. R. O'Conor.

Nr. 12876. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Konstantinopel. Antwort auf das vorige.

Foreign Office, March 12, 1903.

Sir, || I have received and read with much interest your Excellency's despatch of the 4th instant respecting the acceptance by His Majesty the Sultan of the scheme of reforms proposed by the Russian and Austro-Hungarian Governments for the Vilayets of Salonica, Monastir, and Kossovo, and His Majesty's intention of applying these measures to all of the six vilayets of European Turkey. || I note with satisfaction that the Austro-Hungarian and Russian Ambassadors are instructing their Consuls in the districts concerned to watch the execution of the reforms, and to consult together with a view to joint representations to the Inspector-General and the Valis when required. His Majesty's Consular officers have shown by the frequent reports which they have furnished that they are already fully alive to the duty of attentively observing what is passing, of keeping you fully informed on the subject, and offering suggestions to the Turkish authorities when advice can usefully be given. It would, however, be desirable that your Excellency should inform the British Consuls of the instructions sent to their Austro-Hungarian and Russian colleagues, and should direct them to keep in communication with those officers, and to give their assistance and support both in obtaining information and in joining in any representations which may seem well calculated to promote the effective application of the reforms. Lansdowne.

Der Konflikt europäischer Mächte mit Venezuela. 1902—1903*).

Nr. 12877. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Denkschrift über die Beschwerden gegen Venezuela.

Case of seizures by the Venezuelan gun-boat „Augusto".

It appears from the sworn evidence of ten witnesses examined before the Attorney-General of Trinidad that on the 21st January, 1901, four boats — three Venezuelan and one belonging to a British subject — were at Patos Island waiting for the tide on their way to Port of Spain laden with cocoa. The boats were of the usual class which trade between Port of Spain and the neighbouring ports of Venezuela, and appear on this occasion to have been simply carrying cargo and passengers in the ordinary way to Port of Spain. || There were some twenty-five persons altogether in the boats, sailors and passengers, including several British subjects. || On the morning of the 22nd the Venezuelan gun-boat „Augusto" appeared off the island, and, after remaining close in shore for some hours, summoned the people who had landed from the vessels above referred to to come on board the „Augusto". This demand not being complied with, a force of some twenty armed Venezuelans under Colonel Torres was landed on Patos, and proceeded to remove the boats and collect their cargoes. About half the passengers and crew of the trading-boats were removed on board the „Augusto", the remainder taking refuge in the woods, where they were left without food, water, or means of leaving the island. || Representations were at once made by His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Carácas with reference to this reported seizure and deportation of British subjects. A stringent inquiry was demanded, but, so far as His Majesty's Government are aware, no attention was paid to this demand.

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*) Englisches Blaubuch Cd. 1399.

Case of the „Sea Horse".

On the 26th February, 1901, John Craig, a fisherman of Trinidad, a British subject, proceeded to Patos in pursuance of his calling in his boat, the „Sea Horse". Having beached his boat and landed with his boat's crew on the island, he was followed by the crew of a Venezuela Guarda Costa, armed with cutlasses and rifles, who beat one of his companions, fired at another, who, however, escaped unhurt, and finally seized the boat and its contents, leaving the men on the island without food or water. They were fortunately relieved by a passing boat two days later and taken back to Port of Spain. || In this case, a strong remonstrance was addressed to the Venezuelan Government in respect of the landing of an armed force on British territory, and the assault on the persons and seizure of the property of British subjects. || On the same occasion the „Buena Fé", a boat belonging to a Venezuelan citizen, resident in Trinidad, was seized uuder similar circumstances, and although the owner's nationality precluded support of any claim on his part, the interference with the boatmen and the seizure of the property on Patos Island constituted a grave violation of British territory. || The statements of fact were in each case supported by sworn declarations. The Venezuelan Government justified the action of their Guarda Costa by declaring that they considered Patos as belonging to Venezuela, and by stating that the „Sea Horse" was thought to be engaged in smuggling. No proof of this was, however, adduced, nor did there appear to be any reasonable ground for the assumption. This plea was subsequently amended by the further statement that the „Sea Horse" was suspected of landing arms, but the Venezuelan version of the fact proves that she never touched the coast and could not therefore have landed arms, while it was not even alleged that, after being chased to Patos where she was seized, she had any arms on board. || The explanations offered after six months' correspondence were wholly unsatisfactory, and, as His Majesty's Minister states in his last despatch received on this subject, „no redress has been offered for an act which, even according to their own account (*i. e.*, that of the Venezuelan Government), and, if their assumed possession of the island be allowed, was one of unjustifiable violence".

Case of the „Maria Teresa".

In January 1901 the sloop „Maria Teresa", the property of a British subject, but flying the Venezuelan flag, was, when about to leave the Venezuelan port of Guiria, compelled to heave-to, and ordered to proceed

to Trinidad, instead of to her destination at Yrapa on the mainland. On the „Maria Teresa“ proceeding to follow these instructions she was boarded by a boat from the „Miranda“, which took off the master and two sailors, and after seizing the property on board the „Maria Teresa“ set on fire and completely destroyed her. || The Venezuelan Government, in justification of the „Miranda's“ action, contended that the owner and master of the sloop had been actively engaged in assisting the revolutionists. Although the treatment of the British subjects on board the sloop afforded ground for remonstrance, His Majesty's Government, in view of these statements, which were not, however, supported by proof, forebore to press the matter strongly, as there was some evidence that the vessel had been in communication with, if not in the employ of, the revolutionary party. Further inquiry and explanations were promised.

Case of the „Pastor“.

The case of the „Pastor“, however, afforded still stronger ground for protest. On the 30th August last year the Venezuelan-owned sloop „Pastor“ left Port of Spain with a cargo of goods and with three passengers, one of whom at least was a British subject. || There is some evidence to show that the „Pastor“, in conjunction with three other boats of Venezuelan nationality, was engaged on a smuggling venture. On her arrival at Patos Bay, the Venezuelan revenue-boat „Totumo“ appeared on the scene, and after examining the papers and cargo of the „Pastor“ landed some of her crew on the island, seized and carried on board goods which had been there deposited by the „Pastor“, and took the men engaged in the expedition as prisoners. She subsequently fired on the „Pastor“, when that vessel was still in British waters. || The correspondence exchanged with the Venezuelan Government with reference to this incident made it clear that they were determined to consider and to treat Patos as belonging to the Republic. In these circumstances, it was thought expedient to record a formal protest against this renewed and gross violation of British territorial waters by a Venezuelan gun-boat — which the facts that the „Pastor“ was a Venezuelan vessel, and had infringed the Customs Regulations of Trinidad, were not held in any way to justify. || His Majesty's Minister accordingly made a strong remonstrance with reference to this incident, but the Venezuelan Government stated that they could not make any investigation with regard to the violation of British territory, as they considered Patos Island, on which the violation of territory occurred, as their own legitimate possesion.

Case of the „Indiana."

A further case of the violation of British rights occurred in January last in the seizure and detention of the British-owned and registered sloop „Indiana" in the River Barima, within Venezuelan territory, the waters of which are by the terms of the Anglo-Venezuelan Boundary Award open to the navigation of all nations in time of peace. || In this instance the vessel, which carried only a cargo of empty barrels used for the conveyance of corn to the market of Georgetown, was suspected of smuggling, seized and carried into the Venezuelan port of Amakuru, the captain escaping in a native canoe. || There was no evidence to support this charge of smuggling, and the Colonial authorities, to whom the case was reported, point out that the confiscation of the vessel was an excessively severe penalty for any infraction of the Customs laws, if such were deemed to have occurred. || The representations made to the Venezuelan Government have hitherto failed to elicit any explanation.

Case of the „In Time".

A more recent instance of a similar character is the destruction of the British vessel „In Time" by the Venezuelan gun-boat „General Crespo", in the Venezuelan harbour of Pedernales on or about the 1st May last. || It appears that on the arrival of the gun-boat „General Crespo" in Pedernales orders were given to seize all craft in port, and this was done. No provocation or justification of this order has been assigned. The „In Time" was then fired on by the gun-boat, and an armed party from the „Crespo" boarded her and broke her up. She subsequently drifted down the river and sank. || In connection with this case, His Majesty's Minister was instructed to inform the Venezuelan Government that unless they could disprove the reports received as to the destruction of this vessel, His Majesty's Government might be obliged to cease extending the hospitality of British ports to Venezuelan cruisers. || The Venezuelan Government have protested against the „menacing tone" of this communication, which they consider „inadmissible", even as a simple notification.

Case af the „Queen".

The seizure on the high seas of the British ship „Queen", of Grenada, reported by His Majesty's Minister in June, is the latest instance of such unwarrantable interference. || In this case it appears, from sworn evidence, that the vessel, while on her voyage from Grenada to Trinidad in ballast, was overhauled by the Venezuelan gun-boat „Restaurador" some 20 miles off Carupano; that after the seizure the „Queen" was towed into the

Venezuelan port of Porlamar, there stripped of her sails and papers and finally confiscated, on a mere suspicion of having carried a cargo of arms to Venezuela, the crew being put on shore and left destitute. || The master and one of the crew, after remaining there twenty-seven days, obtained a passage on a Venezuelan sloop, and found their way to La Guayra, where they reported themselves to the British Vice-Consul. || The facts having been brought to the knowledge of His Majesty's Minister, he at once addressed a representation to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and requested „to be informed what steps the Venezuelan Government intended to take with reference to this charge, in which more than one important question was involved".

The action of the Venezuelan Consul at Trinidad, Señor Figueredo, has also given rise to grave complaints with reference to his issuing irregular clearances, exaction of improper fees and charges, and assumption of unwarranted authority by the collection of customs dues for Venezuela in Trinidad. || He has, further, in some cases, refused to accept dispatch of vessels for Venezuela, on the ground that they belonged to persons who were not acceptable to the Venezuelan Government, and in others is stated to have placed every sort of hindrance in the way of the dispatch of vessels, thus seriously prejudicing the trade of British subjects at Trinidad. || M. Figueredo's conduct was brought to notice especially in connection with his refusal to dispatch the British registered lighter „Euterpe", belonging to the „Compagnie Générale des Asphaltes de France", when he informed the Company that if the vessel was otherwise dispatched she would be seized or sunk as soon as she was outside British waters. || His Majesty's Minister has been instructed to protest against M. Figueredo's action, and to inform the Venezuelan Government that unless satisfactory assurances were forthcoming, no exequatur would be issued to their Consul. Of this communication no notice has been taken.

Besides these specific outrages and grounds of complaint, there are cases in which British subjects and Companies have large claims against the Venezuelan Government. || The Venezuelan Government decline to accept the explanations and assurances of His Majesty's Government with regard to the „Ban Righ" as in any way modifying the situation. As a result, the position of His Majesty's Legation at Carácas has been rendered for diplomatic purposes quite impracticable, as all representations, protests, and remonstrances now remain disregarded and unacknowledged.

Foreign Office, July 20, 1902.

Nr. 12878. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an die Botschaft in Berlin. Unterredung mit dem deutschen Botschafter über das vorige.

Foreign Office, July 23, 1902.

Sir, || The German Ambassador spoke to me to-day about the state of affairs in Venezuela. I told his Excellency that we had various causes of complaint against the Venezuelan Government, and that we intended to obtain satisfaction for the claims of British subjects. We should be quite ready to confer with the German Government with a view to joint action.

Lansdowne.

Nr. 12879. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Caracas. Er soll eine befriedigende Antwort auf die englischen Beschwerden fordern und mit Repressalien drohen.

Foreign Office, July 29, 1902.

(Telegraphic.) || The liberty and property of British subjects have, in a succession of cases, been interfered with in a wholly unwarrantable manner by the Venezuelan Government. The following incidents have been the subject of serious consideration by His Majesty's Government: — || The action of the gun-boat „Augusto" in seizing and deporting certain British subjects in January 1901; the seizure of John Craig's boat and property on Patos Island in the February following; the similar interference on the same occasion in the case of the „Buena Fé", which was accompanied by violation of territory; and the cases of the vessels „Maria Teresa", „Pastor", „Indiana", and „In Time". || No satisfactory explanations have been received from the Venezuelan Government in any of these cases. The destruction of the British ship „Queen" is a still more flagrant instance of such interference. || His Majesty's Government cannot tolerate a continuance of the conduct which culminated in the last-mentioned incident, and you should address a formal protest respecting it to the Venezuelan Government. You should intimate to the President and the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in unmistakable terms, that unless His Majesty's Government receive explicit assurances that incidents of this nature shall not recur, and unless the Venezuelan Government promptly pay to the injured parties full compensation wherever satisfactory evidence has been furnished to His Majesty's Government that such is justly due, His Majesty's Government will take such steps as

may be necessary to obtain the reparation which they are entitled to demand from the Venezuelan Government in these cases, as well as for any loss to British subjects caused by the unjustifiable conduct of the Acting Venezuelan Consul at Trinidad, and on account of the railway claims.

Nr. 12880. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Caracas an den Minister des Ausw. Antwort auf das vorige.

Carácas, August 5, 1902. (August 5.*)

(Telegraphic.) || In reply to the representations made in accordance with your telegram of the 29th July, the Venezuelan Government state that, in their opinion, some of the cases mentioned have been already settled; and that, in consequence of the partiality towards the revolutionaries displayed by the Government of Trinidad, and pending a settlement of the complaints relative to the „Ban Righ", they have determined to postpone the others. || They reiterate that they cannot entertain other cases unconnected with the „Ban Righ" until that case is satisfactorily settled; with regard to it they refer to their previous decisions. They further state that the conduct of the Acting Venezuelan Consul at Trinidad must necessarily be taken into consideration in relation to the friendly attitude of the colonial authorities towards the revolutionaries. || The alternative given by His Majesty's Government is ignored.

Nr. 12881. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Das Ausw. Amt an die Admiralität. Teilt Nr. 12877, 12879 und Nr. 12880 mit. Welche Maßregeln können gegen Venezuela ergriffen werden?

Foreign Office, August 8, 1902.

Sir, || I am directed by the Marquess of Lansdowne to request you to inform the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that for the past two years His Majesty's Government have had grave cause to complain on various occasions of unjustifiable interference on the part of the Venezuelan Government with the liberty and property of British subjects. || The successive instances which have occurred since the beginning of last year are set forth in the accompanying Memorandum. No efforts have been spared by Mr. Haggard, His Majesty's Minister at Carácas, in his endeavours to obtain an amicable settlement of these cases. In none of

*) Die eingeklammerten Daten geben das Datum des Empfangs an.

them have satisfactory explanations been forthcoming, and latterly the representations of His Majesty's Minister not only received no attention, but remained unnoticed. || The destruction of the British ship „Queen", reference to which will be found in the Memorandum, was considered so flagrant a case that it was felt that a continuance of such conduct could no longer be tolerated. || A telegram, copy of which is inclosed, was accordingly sent to Mr. Haggard, instructing him to record a formal protest against the conduct of the Venezuelan Government, and to intimate in unmistakable terms to the President and Minister for Foreign Affairs that unless explicit assurances were received that such incidents should not recur, and unless full compensation were promptly paid to the injured parties wherever shown to the satisfaction of His Majesty's Government to be justly due, they would take such steps as might be necessary to exact the reparation to which they were entitled. || A telegram, copy of which is also inclosed, has been received from Mr. Haggard. conveying the reply of the Venezuelan Government to this protest. It will be seen that no practical attention has been paid to the remonstrance of His Majesty's Government, and that the threat to take such steps as may be necessary to exact reparation has been ignored. || Lord Lansdowne is of opinion that the time has arrived when stronger measures must be resorted to for the purpose of bringing the Venezuelan Government to a sense of their international obligations. His Lordship would, therefore, be glad to be favoured with the views of the Lords Commissioners as to the most effectual and convenient manner of putting pressure on the Venezuelan Government. || I am to add that, in conversation with Lord Lansdowne, Count Metternich, the German Ambassador, has suggested that the Powers concerned should take part in a joint naval demonstration. F. H. Villiers.

Nr. 12882. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Die Admiralität an das Ausw. Amt. Antwort auf das vorige. Empfiehlt eine Blockade.

Admiralty, August 14, 1902. (August 15.)

(Extract.) || I have laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty jour letter of the 8th instant, in which you refer to the numerous instances of unjustifiable interference on the part of the Venezuelan Government with the liberty and property of British subjects, and state that, in the opinion of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the time has now arrived when stronger measures than those heretofore

adopted must be resorted to, for the purpose of bringing that Government to a sense of its international obligations. || If it should be decided by His Majesty's Government to put pressure on Venezuela in order to obtain satisfaction for the acts of aggression committed by that country on British shipping or against British interests, my Lords would be prepared to direct the Commander-in-chief on the North America and West Indies Station to establish a blockade of such ports on the Venezuelan coast as may be selected for this purpose, on the understanding that the blockade should be deferred until November, when the unhealthy season is over. || The places selected for blockade would be La Guayra, Puerto Cabello, and possibly three other ports where railways terminate, and also the port of Maracaibo, which is visited by a larger number of vessels than any other port on the Venezuelan coast. Some, if not all, of these ports could be effectively blockaded by the present squadron on the Station. || Should His Majesty's Government as a matter of policy consider it desirable to adopt the suggestion of the German Ambassador, that „the two Powers concerned should take part in a joint naval demonstration", their Lordships consider that a blockade in Venezuelan waters would be the best method of giving effect to it.

Nr. 12883. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Die Admiralität an das Ausw. Amt. Vorschläge für Maßregeln gegen Venezuela.

Admiralty, October 10, 1902. (October 10.)

Sir, || I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to forward herewith, to be laid before the Marquess of Lansdowne, a copy of a letter, dated the 27th ultimo, from the Commander-in-chief on the North America and West Indies Station, relative to the measures in his opinion necessary to carry out the proposed naval demonstration off the coast of Venezuela. || My Lords desire me to state that they anticipate no difficulty in giving effect to Sir Archibald Douglas' proposals, should they meet with Lord Lansdowne's concurrence.

C. I. Thomas, pro Sec.

Anlage.

Vice-Admiral Douglas to Admiralty.

„Ariadne," at Halifax, September 27, 1902.

(Extract.) || I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Admiralty letter dated the 4th September last, directing me to be in readiness to carry out a naval demonstration off the coast of Venezuela in conjunction

with ships of the Imperial German Navy. || With reference to the second paragraph of the letter above quoted, be pleased to inform the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that I think it will be necessary, in order to bring effective measures to bear on the Venezuelan Government, to blockade the ports of La Guayra, Porto Cabello, and Maracaibo, and other ports on the Venezuelan coast where railways terminate. || The most convenient time to commence operations will be towards the end of November, when the Newfoundland fishery season will have concluded, and the vessels at present employed on that division will be available. || I propose, subject to the approval of their Lordships, to place Commodore Montgomerie, of the „Charybdis", in charge, with the following vessels under his orders:

„Tribune", Torpedo-boat destroyers —
„Retribution", „Quail" and
„Indefatigable". „Rocket"; and
„Columbine" (special service vessel).

The „Alert" and „Fantome" will also be available if required. || Having discussed the situation with Captain C. H. Robertson, C.M.G., of the „Pallas", who has recently been employed as Senior Naval Officer of the Barbados Division, and spent some considerable time in Venezuelan waters, and who is well acquainted with the state of affairs in that country, I would submit, as an alternative scheme to the blockade, that all the Venezuelan gun-boats should be seized and retained until our demands are complied with.

Nr. 12884. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Denkschrift an den Deutschen Botschafter über das Vorgehen gegen Venezuela.

His Majesty's Government have within the last two years had grave cause to complain of unjustifiable interference on the part of the Venezuelan Government with the liberty and property of British subjects. || In three instances the objects of this interference were British trading vessels from the Colony of Trinidad, which were pursued by Venezuelan guardacostas on a suspicion of smuggling or trading in arms, and this plea was made the excuse for a violation of British territorial waters, the seizure of the property of British subjects, and in one instance the wilful destruction of the vessel. || In two further cases a similar unsupported charge was made the excuse for the seizure, and confiscation or destruction of British vessels in Venezuelan waters; while incidents of this nature reached their culminating point, when, on the 30th June

last, the British ship „Queen“, while on her voyage from Grenada to Trinidad, was overhauled by a Venezuelan gun-boat on the high seas off Carupano, stripped of her sails and deprived of papers, and finally confiscated on a bare suspicion of having carried a cargo of arms to Venezuela, the crew being put on shore and left destitute. ‖ No efforts had been spared by His Majesty's Minister at Carácas in each of the earlier cases to obtain an amicable settlement, but in none of them had satisfactory explanations been forthcoming. On the occurrence of the still more flagrant interference with the „Queen“, it was felt that a continuance of such conduct could not be tolerated, and His Majesty's Minister at Carácas was instructed on the 8th August to record a formal protest against the action of the Venezuelan Government, and to intimate clearly to the President and Minister for Foreign Affairs, that unless explicit assurances were received that such incidents should not recur, and unless full compensation were promptly paid to the injured parties wherever shown to the satisfaction of His Majesty's Government to be justly due, His Majesty's Government would take such steps as might be necessary to exact the reparation which they were entitled to demand in these cases, as well as on account of the claims of the British Railway Companies, and for any loss arising out of the conduct of the Venezuelan Consul at Trinidad. ‖ With reference to the two later points, it may be mentioned that there are several British Railway Companies in Venezuela which have large claims against the Government in respect of services rendered, damage done to property by Government troops, and in some instances for default of guarantee or loss by depreciation of Government Bonds; while with regard to M. Figueredo, the Venezuelan Consul at Trinidad, it may be stated that his conduct has given rise to the gravest complaints on the part of the Trinidad Government, both on account of the irregularities in the discharge of his Consular functions, and his assumption of unwarranted authority by the collection of customs duties for Venezuela within the British Colony of Trinidad. ‖ The reply of the Venezuelan Government to the formal protest of His Majesty's Minister practically ignores the remonstrances of His Majesty's Government, while it makes no allusion whatever to the threat that they may be compelled to take steps to obtain reparation for the wrongs complained of. ‖ The reply is based on the decision come to by the Venezuelan Government to postpone any reply to all representations on the part of His Majesty's Government from the time of the injuries caused by the „Ban Righ“, so long as the situation created by the dispatch of that vessel from this country continued. ‖ In connection with the already well-

known case of the „Ban Righ", it may be explained that the vessel was detained for some time under surveillance in British waters, and was only allowed to leave the Port of London in January last after examination of her papers and cargo, on receipt of an assurance from the Colombian Representative at this Court that the vessel was intended for the service of his Government, and after ascertaining that no state of war existed between Colombia and Venezuela. || His Majesty's Government had in these circumstances no further ground for detaining the vessel, and the fullest explanations were afforded to the Venezuelan Government on the subject. || In view of the unsatisfactory nature of the Venezuelan reply, His Majesty's Government are compelled to consider what steps may be necessary to enforce their demands, but before proceeding to ulterior measures they propose to intimate their regret at the manner in which their representations have been received, and to state that they are unable to admit that the serious causes of complaint put forward can be disposed of by a refusal to discuss them, and that if such a refusal is persisted in, it will become their duty to consider what steps they should take in view of such refusal for the protection of British interests. His Majesty's Government are, however, unwilling to exclude at once all possibility of proceeding with negotiations, and they are therefore ready to consider any further communication which the Venezuelan Government may be prepared to make. || As the German Government have expressed their willingness to unite with His Majesty's Government in putting pressure upon Venezuela, they may perhaps think it expedient to associate themselves with His Majesty's Government in this preliminary step, and in such case they may be disposed to instruct their Representative at Carácas to inform the Venezuelan Government that the Imperial Government are aware of the communications which have passed between this country and Venezuela, and that the British and German Governments have determined to act together in pressing the claims of their subjects upon the attention of Venezuela.

Foreign Office, October 22, 1902.

Nr. 12885. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Das Ausw. Amt an die Admiralität. Antwort auf Nr. 12883. Empfiehlt Wegnahme der venezolanischen Kanonenboote.

Foreign Office, October 22, 1902.

(Extract.) || I am directed by the Marquess of Lansdowne to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th instant inclosing copy of a

letter from the Commander-in-chief on the North American and West Indies Station relative to the measures which are in his opinion necessary to carry out the proposed naval demonstration off the coast of Venezuela. || The alternative courses suggested by Sir A. Douglas have been carefully considered, and as the establishment of a blockade appears open to some objection, his Lordship is disposed to think that it will be found most convenient, in the event of the Venezuelan Government remaining obdurate, to adopt the suggestion of seizing all the Venezuelan gun-boats until the British demands are complied with.

Nr. 12886. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Washington. Soll dem Staatssekretär Hay die Beziehungen zu Venezuela darlegen.

Foreign Office, November 11, 1902.

(Telegraphic.) || I should wish your Excellency to obtain an interview with Mr. Hay at an early date, and to make a communication to him in the following terms: — || His Majesty's Government have, within the last two years, had grave cause to complain of unjustifiable interference on the part of the Venezuelan Government with the liberty and property of British subjects. Every effort was made, but without result, to obtain an amicable settlement. In June last a British ship was overhauled on the high seas, and eventually confiscated, on a bare suspicion of having carried arms to Venezuela. || It was felt that a continuance of such conduct could not be tolerated, and His Majesty's Minister at Carácas was instructed to record a formal protest, and to intimate clearly to the President and Minister for Foreign Affairs that unless explicit assurances were received that such incidents should not recur, and unless full compensation were promptly paid wherever shown to be justly due, His Majesty's Government would take such steps as might be necessary to exact the reparation which they were intitled to demand in these cases, as in others where endeavours to obtain redress had proved of no avail. || The reply was wholly unsatisfactory, and practically ignored the remonstrances of His Majesty's Government. || In view of the nature of this reply, His Majesty's Government are compelled to consider what course it may be necessary to pursue in order to enforce their demands. But, before proceeding to ulterior measures, they have decided to intimate their regret at the manner in wich their representations have been received, and to state that the serious complaints put forward cannot be

disposed of by a refusal to discuss them. If such a refusal is persisted in, it will become their duty to consider what steps they should take for the protection of British interests. They are, however, unwilling to exclude at once all possibility of proceeding with negotiations, and are therefore ready to consider any further communication which the Venezuelan Government may be prepared to make.

Nr. 12887. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Caracas. Energische Note an Venezuela.

Foreign Office, November 11, 1902.

(Telegraphic.) || Make a communication in the following terms to the Venezuelan Government in the form of a note: — || His Majesty's Government regret the unsatisfactory character of the reply to the representations contained in your note of the 30th July. They are unable to admit that the serious causes of complaint put forward can be met by a refusal to discuss them. || If such a refusal is persisted in, it will become the duty of His Majesty's Government to consider what steps they should take for the protection of British interests. || They are, however, unwilling to exclude at once all possibility of proceeding with negotiations, and they are, therefore, ready to consider any further communication which the Government of the Republic may be prepared to make.

Nr. 12888. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an die Botschaft in Berlin. Unterredung mit dem deutschen Botschafter über gemeinsames Vorgehen gegen Venezuela.

Foreign Office, November 11, 1902.

(Extract.) || The German Ambassador informed me this evening that the German Government were prepared to join with us in addressing a final warning to the Venezuelan Government, and I communicated to him the substance of my telegram to Mr. Haggard of this day's date. I had thought it better not to delay making this intimation, wich was, as he would observe, couched in general terms, but I undertook to telegraph at once to Mr. Haggard, desiring him to put himself in communication with his German colleague. || With regard to measures of coercion, the German Government were prepared to accede to our suggestion that the first step should be the seizure of the Venezuelan gun-boats, and they proposed that we should instruct our naval authorities in those waters

to concert a plan for carrying out this project. || As to the joint execution of measures of coercion, the German Government recognized that there was a sharp distinction between the character of the British and German „first-line" claims; nevertheless, the two claims ought to stand or fall together, and we ought to exclude the possibility of a settlement between Venezuela and one of the two Powers without an equally satisfactory settlement in the case of the other. Each Government ought, therefore, to come to an understanding before it embarked upon a project of coercion that neither Government should be at liberty to recede except by mutual agreement; and before common action was initiated, we ought to come to a distinct agreement to this effect. || I told Count Metternich that it seemed to me only reasonable that if we agreed to act together n applying coercion, we should also agree that each should support the other's demands, and should not desist from doing so except by agreement.

Nr. 12889. **DEUTSCHES REICH.** — Der Botschafter in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Denkschrift über die Ansprüche Deutschlands an Venezuela.

(Translation.) || In the first class of claims Germany demands the settlement of her claims arising out of the Venezuelan civil war of 1898—1900, amounting approximately to 1 700 000 bolivares (francs). England, in the first instance, puts forward claims on account of the illegal removal and destruction of English merchant-ships. || In the event of the two Powers having recourse to coercive measures, they would both make further demands. Germany would demand the settlement of her claims arising out of the present Venezuelan civil war, amounting at the present time to approximately 3 000 000 bolivares, and also the guaranteeing of the claims of the German creditors, especially those of the Disconto Gesellschaft, amounting to approximately 41 000 000 bolivares. England would likewise assert the demands of her subjects, especially the claims of the English railways in Venezuela on account of damage to their lines, and failure to meet deferred liabilities. || These claims of the second class would be combined according to their several natures by the adoption of the joint proposals (recently agreed upon by the Disconto Gesellschaft and the several groups of English creditors interested) for the settlement of the Venezuelan Loans of 1881 and 1896. These proposals, which were communicated with the statement of the Disconto

Gesellschaft of the 9th October last, were submitted at the same time by the English Council of Foreign bondholders to the British Government, who promised the Council that they should be carefully examined. || The German Government is of opinion that these proposals are just, and may therefore be considered as a suitable basis for a settlement of the Venezuelan External Debt. || Among the above-named proposals is contemplated the floating of a new loan limited to 15 000 000 bolivares, with the same securities as the loans of 1881 and 1896. The object of this loan would be to enable the Venezuelan Government to guarantee a settlement of the foreign claims, especially the German and English ones, the payment of which would otherwise be attended with difficulties. || It is understood that in the event of the joint adoption of the proposals made by the Anglo-German creditors, the British Government will also make itself responsible for as much of the loan of 1881 as is in English hands.

Nr. 12890. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Washington an den Minister des Ausw. Antwort auf Nr. 12786.

Washington, November 13, 1902. (November 13.)

(Telegraphic.) || I communicated to Mr. Hay this morning the substance of jour Lordship's telegram of the 11th instant. || His Excellency stated, in reply, that the United States' Government, although they regretted that European Powers should use force against Central and South American countries, could not object to their taking steps to obtain redress for injuries suffered by their subjects, provided that no acquisition of territory was contemplated.

Nr. 12891. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an die Botschaft in Berlin. Unterredung mit dem deutschen Geschäftsträger über die beiderseitigen Ansprüche an Venezuela und das Vorgehen.

Foreign Office, November 17, 1902.

(Extract.) || The German Ambassador being absent from London in attendance upon His Majesty the German Emperor, Count Bernstorff called here to-day at my request and was informed that His Majesty's Government quite concur in the view that, if joint action against Venezuela is undertaken, it should be maintained until the demands of both Governments, as finally agreed upon, are satisfied. || In the first place,

however, it was necessary to arrive at an unterstanding with regard to the form in which the British and German claims should be put forward, and alo with regard to the manner in which the demands made upon Venezuela should be enforced. || The British claims, as Count Metternich presumed, were capable of classification. Those on account of the recent cases of unjustifiable interference with the liberty and property of British subjects, including the shipping claims, would rank first. Claims for injury to British property during the late revolution, and that which placed President Castro in power, would come next; and in the third place the claims of the bondholders. || His Majesty's Government did not, however, desire, in their demands upon Venezuela, to draw a distinction between the various categories. Their object was to obtain a general settlement, and they were of opinion that to advance one class of claims, or at this stage to specify any particular amount, would diminish the chance of securing in all cases the reparation which they considered to be justly due. || If, therefore, the answer of the Venezuelan Government to the communication recently addressed to them should prove unsatisfactory, or if, after a reasonable interval, it should appear that no answer at all would be returned, His Majesty's Government would propose to proceed to measures of coercion and to seize the gun-boats. || If the seizure of the gun-boats should not produce the desired effect, it would, of course, be necessary to decide what should be the next step. This point would be carefully considered. || On receiving the submission of the Venezuelan Government, and on learning that they were prepared to admit their liability on every count, His Majesty's Government would for their part exact immediate payment of the pressing claims in the first category, according to estimates approved by His Majesty's Legation at Carácas, or by the British Colonial authorities. They would then consent to the heavier claims being referred to a small Mixed Commission of three members in case the Venezuelan Government should have any considerations to urge in mitigation of the damages claimed. An arrangement of this nature would be equitable as regards the Venezuelan Government and would, moreover, prevent pressure being exercised in cases, such as might possibly occur, where the Venezuelan member of the Commission could prove a claim to be unfounded or excessive. || Count Bernstorff promised to report these suggestions to his Government at once.

Nr. 12892. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Caracas an den Minister des Ausw. Antwort Venezuelas auf Nr. 12887. Carácas, November 17, 1902. (November 18.)

(Telegraphic.) || In reply to my note sent in accordance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's telegram of the 11th instant, the Venezuelan Government express their regret that it might be inferred that the Venezuelan complaints with regard to the „Ban Righ" and to the attitude taken up by the authorities of the Colony of Trinidad had not been examined by His Majesty's Government, as if this had been the case those complaints would not have been attributed to caprice on the part of Venezuela. || Attention is called to the „eagerness of His Majesty's Government or of His Majesty's Legation to discuss matters of comparatively secondary importance", when contrasted with the paramount interest felt by Venezuela in obtaining due recognition and respect for her claims, which arise from the grave injuries caused by the „Ban Righ" and the facilities afforded to the revolutionaries by the Colonial authorities in Trinidad. || They add that Venezuela has done nothing contrary to courtesy or international law, and that she cannot, therefore, justly be held responsible for the present situation. || The Venezuelan Government would be much gratified if His Majesty's Government would express some desire to come to an understanding by which the injuries caused by the „Ban Righ" and by the authorities of Trinidad would be remedied, and they maintain that their claims in connection with those two subjects have hitherto been met by „the most unfair refusal of His Majesty's Government to consider the matter". || The note continues with a statement that the Venezuelan Government have gravely considered the serious nature of the injuries which have resulted from the treatment of the „Ban Righ" and the action of the Trinidad authorities, and that they ask nothing from Great Britain which is not a legitimate consequence of the situation thereby created. They therefore appeal to the sense of fairness of His Majesty's Government to effect a settlement of the present abnormal and regrettable situation by placing matters on a basis of mutual agreement.

Nr. 12893. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Washington. Die Vereinigten Staaten sollen bei Abbruch der Beziehungen die englischen Interessen in Caracas vertreten.

Foreign Office, November 25, 1902.

(Telegraphic.) || Ask Secretary of State whether, if it becomes necessary to withdraw His Majesty's Minister from Carácas, which may

happen at any moment, the United States' Minister will be allowed to take charge of British interests.

Nr. 12894. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Washington an den Minister des Ausw. Antwort auf das vorige.

Washington, November 26, 1902. (November 26.)

(Telegraphic.) || Charge of British interests in Venezuela. || Mr. Hay has informed me that in the event of the withdrawal of His Majesty's Minister at Carácas, he will be pleased to allow the United States' Representative to take charge of British interests in Venezuela, provided that no objection to this arrangement is raised by the Venezuelan Government.

Nr. 12895. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an die Botschaft in Berlin. Unterredung mit dem Deutschen Botschafter. Ansprüche Deutschlands. Gemeinsames Vorgehen.

Foreign Office, November 26, 1902.

(Extract.) || The German Ambassador called upon me on the 21st instant, and stated that he had received further instructions from his Government with regard to the action which they were prepared to take in Venezuela. The following is the substance of the communication which his Excellency made to me: — || The Imperial Government are prepared generally to accept the counter-proposals of His Majesty's Government respecting joint action against Venezuela, but they desire on certain points to offer the following observations: || 1. The Imperial Government are willing to intervene jointly in support of the collective German and English claims, without discriminating between the various classes of claims, it being understood that joint action will be maintained unless terminated by mutual agreement. || In consequence, the Imperial Government will at once put forward the following demands: || (*a.*) Payment of the German claims arising out of the civil wars of the years 1898—1900, amounting to about 1 700 000 bolivars. || (*b.*) Settlement of the claims arising out of the present civil war in Venezuela. || (*c.*) Guarantee for the claims of German firms on account of the building of the slaughterhouse in Carácas, amounting to a round sum of 800 000 bolivars. || (*d.*) Guarantee for the payment of the claims of the German Great Vene-

zuela Railway Company for interest and sinking fund of the Venezuelan Loan of 1896. || The Imperial Government also concur in the further proposal of His Majesty's Government to demand at once from the Venezuelan Government the acceptance in principle of all the German and English claims, and to reserve the separate settlement of claims for a Mixed Commission to be appointed later. The Imperial Government, however, attach importance to the following point, viz., that the German war claims, under paragraph (*a*), which have already been thoroughly investigated, and have been presented to the Venezuelan Government for the amounts declared, shall not be subjected to fresh examination at the hands of this Commission. || 2. The Imperial Government agree that the measures of coercion against Venezuela shall be undertaken as soon as possible. It must, however, be taken into consideration that the last notes between the German and Venezuelan Governments were exchanged more than six months ago, and were not couched in a tone which would justify an immediate resort to measures of coercion. The Imperial Government, therefore, consider that they should make one last representation to the Venezuelan Government, and, therefore, propose that Germany and Great Britain should each simultaneously present an ultimatum, in which each Power should embody its own collective demands, referring at the same time to the demands of the other Power. The Imperial Government do not consider that this course would result in a postponement of active measures, as the communications might be presented at once, a period of twenty-four hours being granted for compliance. || 3. As regards the coercive measures to be adopted, the Imperial Government are prepared, first, in conjunction with Great Britain, to proceed to the seizure of the Venezuelan ships of war.

Nr. 12896. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Derselbe an Dieselbe, Dasselbe.

Foreign Office, November 26, 1902.

(Extract.) || I had a lengthy conversation to-day with the German Ambassador on the subject of the Venezuelan question. || I told his Excellency that, if I correctly understood the views of the German Government, the points as to which we had not arrived at an agreement were few in number, and not of first-rate importance. || They were, I believed, as follows: — || 1. We did not like the German proposal to inform the Venezuelans that we shall require an answer to our ultimatum within twenty-four hours. We had no objection to lay down this limit of

time for our own guidance, but we thought it might be inconvenient to notify it to the Venezuelans in case by any chance we should, at the last moment, find it impossible to take action at the appointed moment. || 2. The German Government had suggested that the Representatives of the two Powers should, after our demands had been refused, leave Carácas, and go either to La Guayra or on board a ship of war. We thought it better that they should be authorized to leave Carácas as soon as the ultimatum had been presented, but it might be left to their discretion to decide when they should leave and where they should go. || 3. We observed that the German Government proposed to claim an immediate payment of 1 700 000 bolivars, equal to 66 275 *l.*, in satisfaction of their „first rank“ claims. Our first rank claims would probably not exceed 10 000 *l.*, and we thought it only fair that the cash payment to be made to each Government by the Venezuelan Government should be of the same amount. We should, therefore, ask for the same sum as that demanded by the German Government, as a payment on account towards the satisfaction of the total of our claims, which would reach a very large sum. || Besides these three points, there was the question of the measures of coercion which might be resorted to in the event of the seizure of the Venezuelan gun-boats proving ineffectual. || I thought however that, if points 1, 2 and 3 could be satisfactorily disposed of, we might, without waiting for a settlement of this further question, take the steps which were necessary with a view to the presentation of the ultimatum and the preparation of the coercive measures which would be necessary if it was disregarded by the Venezuelan Government. || His Excellency agreed with me as to this, but thought we must be prepared to resort to some further measures of coercion in the event of the seizure of the gun-boats proving insufficient. || In this I concurred, telling his Excellency that His Majesty's Government fully recognized that such ulterior measures might be inevitable, and that we should have to come to an agreement for their adoption in one form or another. || We then had some discussion as to the sequence in which the different steps which would be necessary might be taken by the two Governments, and I promised his Excellency that I would send him a short note describing those steps in chronological order. I subsequently sent him the Memorandum of which a copy is attached to this despatch.

Anlage.

Memorandum.

The Senior Naval Officers should be instructed to confer together, and to settle their plan of operations for seizing the gun-boats. They should also be instructed to have a ship or ships in readiness at La Guayra to take on board, if necessary, the British and German Representatives. || 2. Mr. Haggard and Baron Pilgrim should be instructed to present the ultimatum. It should be left to their discretion to decide when they should leave Carácas, and whether they should remain at La Guayra or go on board man-of-war there. It might, however, without tying them down to any particular course, be suggested that they should wait twenty-four hours in Carácas after the presentation of the ultimatum. They should announce their departure by notes to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and state that British and German interests were left in charge of — —. || They might then wait another twenty-four hours at La Guayra or on board the vessel. || 3. If, at the expiration of the forty-eight hours, no satisfactory answer should have been received, the Representatives should so inform the Senior Naval Officers. || The latter should be instructed, on receiving this intimation from the Representatives, to proceed at once to the seizure of the gun-boats.

Foreign Office, November 26, 1902.

Nr. 12897. **FRANKREICH.** — Der Botschafter in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Frankreichs Rechte auf die Zölle Venezuelas.

L'Ambassadeur de France a fait connaître à son Gouvernement les intentions que lui a manifestées Mercredi dernier, 26 Novembre, Lord Lansdowne relativement aux affaires du Venezuela. || Le Gouvernement Britannique paraît disposé à recourir à une action navale; dans le cas où celle-ci devrait aboutir à une main-mise sur les Douanes Vénézuéliennes, le Gouvernement de la République aurait des réserves à formuler. || En effet, aux termes du Traité Franco-Vénézuélien du 26 Novembre, 1885 (De Clerc, Tome XV, supplément, p. 903), Article 2: — || „La somme de 493 970 fr. 92 c., à laquelle s'adjoindra ultérieurement le montant des indemnités allouées par la Commission Mixte instituée par la présente Convention, sera couverte au moyen de la quote-part proportionnelle attribuée mensuellement à la France dans la répartition du 13 pour cent des quarante unités douanières affectées par le Venezuela aux créances

diplomatiques. Cette quote-part mensuelle ne pourra être inférieure au chiffre de . . . ., &c". || En outre, de nouvelles indemnités doivent être payées au Gouvernement Français au moyen de la même dette diplomatique d'après un Arrangement signé à Paris le 19 Février, 1902. || Il résulte de ces Conventions qu'une main-mise sur les ressources de la Douane Vénézuélienne porterait préjudice aux intérêts Français. || L'Ambassadeur de France signale cette situation à l'attention de sa Seigneurie le Secrétaire d'État pour les Affaires Étrangères.

Ambassade de France à Londres.

Nr. 12898. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Gesandten in Caracas. Er soll ein Ultimatum überreichen.

Foreign Office, December 2, 1902.

(Telegraphic.) || Your telegram of the 17th ultimo. || In answer to the Venezuelan note, you should address a written communication to the Venezuelan Minister for Foreign Affairs, pointing out that, with regard to the „Ban Righ", His Majesty's Government have given full explanations, and have shown that on this account there is no legitimate ground of complaint. Nor do they consider that there is any justification for attributing blame to the authorities at Trinidad, who only acted in accordance with instructions. || You should then state that His Majesty's Government also regret the situation which has arisen, but that they cannot accept the note as in any degree a sufficient answer to your communications, or as indicating an intention on the part of the Venezuelan Government to meet the claims which His Majesty's Government have put forward, and which must be understood to include all well-founded claims which have arisen in consequence of the late civil war and previous civil wars, and of the maltreatment or false imprisonment of British subjects, and also a settlement of the external debt. || You will request the Venezuelan Government to make a declaration that they recognize in principle the justice of these claims, that they will at once pay compensation in the shipping cases, and in the cases where British subjects have been falsely imprisoned or maltreated, and that as to other claims, they will be prepared to accept the decisions of a Mixed Commission with regard to the amount and the security for payment to be given. || You should express a hope that the Venezuelan Government will comply with these demands, and not compel His Majesty's Government to take steps to obtain satisfaction. You should add that His Majesty's Government have been in-

formed of the claims of the German Government against Venezuela, that the two Governments have agreed to act together in order to obtain a settlement of all their claims, and that His Majesty's Government will require the immediate payment of a sum equal to that which may in the first instance be paid to the German Government. Any balance after the discharge of pressing claims will be held on account for the liquidation of the claims which will go before the Commission. || You should make it quite clear that this communication must be regarded in the light of an ultimatum. || You will confer with your German colleague and act in close conjunction with him. Subject to any modifications which, after conferring with him, you may consider necessary, you should proceed as follows: the presentation of notes must be simultaneous, and should take place on the 7th instant. If no satisfactory answer is received in the course of twenty-four hours, you and your colleague should leave Carácas for La Grayra. On leaving, you should send a note to the Minister for Foreign Affairs announcing your departure, and stating that British interests have been placed in charge of the United States' Minister. You should await answer at La Guayra for another twenty-four hours, and if none arrives you should intimate this to the Senior Naval Officer at Port of Spain, who will have received instructions on hearing from you to proceed to active measures. One of His Majesty's ships will be at La Guayra on the 6th instant, and it is left to your discretion whether you go on board at once on arrival there or wait until after the second interval of twenty-four hours has elapsed. If convenient, accommodation on board His Majesty's ship can, of course be offered to the German Chargé d'Affaires.

Nr. 12899. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Rom an den Minister des Ausw. Italien will an der Aktion teilnehmen.

Rome, December 3, 1902. (December 3.)

(Telegraphic.) || This afternoon the Minister for Foreign Affairs spoke to me on the subject of Venezuela. He said that he had gathered that a strong representation was about to be made to that Government by His Majesty's Government, and that coercion might have to be resorted to. As the Venezuelan Government had also given Italy just cause for complaint, he had taken steps to inform the United States' Government that Italy might find it necessary to take coercive measures, and had received a very satisfactory reply. Although the Italian Government

were not disposed to take the initiative in such action he would, for many reasons, gladly join in any steps taken by His Majesty's Government, if your Lordship were likely to view such a proposal favourably. In reply to his request for my personal opinion on this point, I told him that, speaking personally, such a suggestion might not, I thought, find your Lordship altogether unprepared. I added that as I understood that His Majesty's Government and the German Government were acting in accord, no time should be lost if he contemplated proposing to join in any steps taken by them. || Signor Prinetti then said that he would send instructions to the Italian Ambassador in London. His Excellency added, that an Italian man-of-war was now in Venezuelan waters, and that telegraphic instructions to proceed south immediately could be sent to a second, which was now in North American waters.

Nr. 12900. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den französischen Botschafter. Antwort auf Nr. 12897.

Foreign Office, December 5, 1902.

Your Excellency, || I have given careful consideration to the Memorandum which you were good enough to leave here on the 28th ultimo, calling attention to the Treaty between France and Venezuela of 1885, and the Protocol signed at Paris this year, by which proportion of the Venezuelan Maritime Customs is assigned to the French creditors. || In reply, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that His Majesty's Government are fully aware of the nature of the French claims upon a portion of the revenue derived from the Maritime Customs of Venezuela. In any measures to which His Majesty's Government may resort for the purpose of inforcing their claims against the Venezuelan Government, care will be taken that French interests are not prejudiced.

Lansdowne.

Nr. 12901. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Rom. Unterredung mit dem italienischen Botschafter über Italiens Mitwirkung.

Foreign Office, December 5, 1902

(Extract.) || I discussed with the Italian Ambassador to-day the question of Italian participation in the measures about to be adopted by Great Britain and Germany against Venezuela. || His Excellency told me

that he had been instructed to explain to me the reasons that made it of importance that Italy should co-operate with us in any measures to be adopted for the purpose of coercing the Venezuelan Government. || I told M. Pansa that in principle I saw no objection to Italian participation. The difficulty in the way of it was this, that we had for some time past been discussing with the German Government the nature of the measures to be adopted for the purpose of enforcing compliance with our demands. The scope and character of those measures had required the most careful examination, not only on account of the manner in which they affected the two European Powers concerned, but on account of the international questions to which they were calculated to give rise. || We had now arrived at an agreement, and it was proposed to take action immediately. There was really no time available for settling the conditions upon which Italy might join us, supposing that were desired. I ventured to suggest that, in the circumstances, it would be better for the Italian Government not to press their demand for the moment. I would, however, gladly undertake to discuss the matter with the German Government, and I thought it should be possible to find some means by which it would be made clear to all concerned that Italy was with us in what we were doing. All our preparations were now complete, and we were ready to take action at once. I might, indeed, say, without exaggeration, that it was almost an affair of hours. In the short interval of time which remained to us it was, I thought, physically impossible that we should come to an agreement „à trois" as to the part to be played by each of us. || His Excellency told me that he realized the difficulty occasioned by the shortness of the time available. In the circumstances, it was probably impossible for an understanding to be arrived at so as to enable Italy to take part in the initial steps upon which Germany and Great Britain had already determined. He thought it, however, most desirable that there should be an exchange of ideas between the three Powers as to the possibility of giving the Italian Government an opportunity of acting in concert with us for the purpose of protecting their interests. In the meanwhile, he thought an Italian ship or ships might visit Venezuelan waters for the purpose of showing that Italy was not indifferent to what was occurring. || I told his Excellency that it would give me much pleasure to confer with the German Government as to the possibility of affording the Italian Government at a later stage such an opportunity as they desired. I added that it seemed to me perfectly natural that when events such as those which might be anticipated were likely to occur on the Venezuelan sea-board,

the Italian Government should desire to be represented by an Italian ship or ships.

Nr. 12902. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Caracas an den Minister des Ausw. Überreichung des Ultimatums.

Carácas, December 7, 1902. (December 8.)

(Telegraphic.) || At 3 o'clock this afternoon both the British and German ultimatums were delivered.

Nr. 12903. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Derselbe an Denselben. Dasselbe.

La Guayra, December 8, 1902. (December 9.)

(Telegraphic.) || Referring to my immediately preceding telegram: || As I had received from the Venezuelan Government no answer to the ultimatum, I handed over charge of British interests to United States' Minister and at 3 P. M. left Carácas for La Guayra, where I embarked on „Retribution". The staff of His Majesty's Legation accompanied me.

Nr. 12904. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an die Botschaft in Berlin. Deutschland ist mit Italiens Beteiligung einverstanden.

Foreign Office, December 9, 1912.

(Extract.) || The German Ambassador informed me to-day that the Italian Ambassador at Berlin had presented a demand that Italy should be allowed to participate in the measures contemplated by Germany and Great Britain against Venezuela. || The German Government were prepared to accept this proposal in principle if His Majesty's Government do the same. It was in their opinion obvious that the participation of the Italian Government in the initial stages of these measures was no longer possible. The German Government were, however, ready to agree that, should a blockade be resorted to, Italy might take part in it. They also considered that the Italian claims might well come before a Mixed Commission, should such a Commission be appointed to deal with the German and British claims. || I replied that the proposals were virtually identical with the suggestions which we had already made in regard to the same subject.

Nr. 12905. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Caracas an den Minister des Ausw. Deutsch-englische Zwangsmaßregeln.

La Guayra, December 9, 1902. (December 10.)

(Telegraphic.) || Your telegram of the 2nd instant. || I shall, if by 3 o'clock this afternoon I have received no satisfactory reply to the ultimatum, proceed in occordance with the instructions contained in that telegram, and notify to the Senior Naval Officer at Port of Spain by telegraph that I have done so. || It has been arranged between the British Senior Naval Officer and the German Commodor at La Cuayra that they will take possession of all the Venezuelan vessels in that port to-day at 5 P. M. There are four of the latter. || The German ships will, after the Venezuelan ships are seized, disperse to the eastward and westward in order to communicate with the other German vessels of their squadron, but within a day or two the German Commodore will return to La Guayra.

Nr. 12906. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Derselbe an Denselben. Wegnahme venezolanischer Schiffe.

La Guayra, December 10, 1902. (December 10.)

(Telegraphic.) || Three Venezuelan ships of war were brought out and another disabled, by four boats from His Majesty's ship „Retribution", armed with Maxim guns and six boats from the German men-of-war. No resistance was offered.

Nr. 12907. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Derselbe an Denselben. Verhaftung der englischen und deutschen Konsuln.

La Guayra, December 10, 1902. (December 10.)

(Telegraphic.) || President Castro, according to a report received from Carácas, refuses to allow the United States' Minister to take charge of British and German interests, and has arrested the British Consul and other English and German residents, whom he is said to be keeping as hostages. || The British Vice-Consul, with women and children, were brought on board ship during the night. || The German Commodore, who is still here, has sunk the two vessels he captured.

Nr. 12908 GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Botschafter in Washington an den Minister des Ausw. Aktion der Vereinigten Staaten in Venezuela.

Washington, December 10, 1902. (December 11.)

(Telegraphic.) || The following telegram from the United States' Minister at Carácas has just been communicated to me in confidence by Mr. Hay: — || „Received news at 7 to-night that all British and Germans here were being arrested. I drove at once to the police-station, where I found many Germans. I asked the Chief of Police to release them. He referred me to the Governor, who in turn referred me to President Castro. I told President that I must be authorized to represent Great Britain and Germany at once, or I could not answer for the consequences of his refusal. He consented, and granted my request. || „I then obtained release of German banker, Blohm, and German doctor, Koehler, as personal favour from the President. Then I told President that he ought to release all the Germans and British. He was not willing, and I told him that I should bring up the matter to-morrow. All British subjects are hiding. Excitement in the streets very great."

Nr. 12909. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Derselbe an Denselben. Dasselbe. Washington, December 11, 1902. (December 11.)

(Telegraphic.) || Following telegram from United States' Minister, Carácas, dated 10th December, has just been communicated to me by Secretary of State: — || „German Legation attacked late last night by a mob. I went at once to the Governor, and obtained police protection for German and British Legations, and promise that no further attacks would be made by mobs. || „I visited police-station this morning, and talked with all the prisoners, who number fifty-four in all — forty-four Germans and ten British, some of them so poor I gave them money for food; four are ill, and I expect to get them liberated within an hour. All British and Germans in Venezuela, I understand, have been arrested. This afternoon I shall see President, and urge him to release them all to-day."

Nr. 12910. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Derselbe an Denselben. Befreiung der Verhafteten.

Washington, December 11, 1902. (December 11.)

(Telegraphic.) || Following telegram dated to-day from United States' Minister, Carácas, communicated by Secretary of State: — || „President informs me he has released all Germans and British who were arrested."

Nr. 12911. **VEREINIGTE STAATEN.** — Der Botschafter in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Venezuela schlägt ein Schiedsgericht vor.

American Embassy, London, December 13, 1902. (December 13.)

My Lord, || The Government of Venezuela has requested the American Minister at Carácas to communicate to the Governments of His Britannic Majesty and of Germany, a proposition to the effect that the present difficulty respecting the manner of settling claims for injuries to British and German subjects during the insurrection be submitted to arbitration; and I have the honour, in accordance with instructions from my Government, to cummunicate this proposal to your Lordship. || In view of the present condition of affairs in Venezuela, I venture to hope that it may be possible for you to enable me to inform my Government, at an early date, of the decision arrived at by His Majesty's Government, with regard to the proposal in question. Henry White.

Nr. 12912. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Gesandte in Caracas an den Minister des Ausw. Antwort Venezuelas auf das Ultimatum.

Port of Spain, December 14, 1902. (December 14.)

(Telegraphic.) || A note from the Venezuelan Government, dated the 9th instant, was brought to me the following day, shortly before I left La Guayra, by the United States' Consul, who had received instructions to that effect from the United States' Minister at Carácas. The note purports to be a reply to the ultimatum, but makes no allusion to the definitive character of that document. It is of the usual contentious nature, and complains that no reparation is offered by His Majesty's Government for the acts of the steam-ship „Ban Righ" and the attitude taken up by Trinidad authorities. It ends by asserting that it is impossible for the Venezuelan Government to meet their debts at present, as their Treasury is empty. It will not be necessary, they add, to remind them of their obligations as soon as peace is declared. || A similar note was received at the same time by the German Representative.

Nr. 12913. **BELGIEN.** — Der Gesandte in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Interesse Belgiens an den Zöllen Venezuelas.

Légation de Belgique, Londres, le 14 Décembre, 1902. (December 15.)

M. le Marquis, || Les événements au Venezuela pouvant amener les forces Britanniques à prendre possession des douanes de ce pays, mon

Gouvernement juge opportun de faire connaître au Gouvernement de Sa Majesté Britannique que les intérêts Belges, comme ceux de la France, sont garantis par les Douanes Vénézuéliennes. || Je suis chargé en conséquence de faire valoir auprès de votre Seigneurie le droit primordial, sur une partie des revenus de ces douanes, qui appartiendrait à la Belgique, dans cette éventualité. Albéric Grénier.

Nr. 12914. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Minister des Ausw. an die Botschaft in Berlin. Besprechung mit Metternich über den Vorschlag Venezuelas. Einwände dagegen.

Foreign Office, December 15, 1902.

(Extract.) || The German Ambassador called on me to-day at my request, and I discussed with him the proposal made to His Majesty's Government by that of Venezuela through the Government of the United States in regard to the possibility of settling by arbitration the claims which had been preferred by the British and German Governments against that of Venezuela for injuries to British and German subjects. I told Count Metternich that the proposal which had, I understood, also been made to the German Government, had not yet been considered by the Cabinet, but that as the American Chargé d'Affaires was to call upon me later in the afternoon, I had thought it desirable that his Excellency and I should at all events have a preliminary conversation on the subject. || Count Metternich told me that he had not yet received any instructions from the German Government. Speaking, however, for himself, he observed that while we should, no doubt, all of us desire to meet such a proposal in a manner agreeable to the United States' Government, there seemed to him to be considerable objections to encouraging the idea of arbitration. He observed, moreover, that the proposal was merely passed on to us, and not in any way supported by the United States' Government. His Excellency further pointed out that it was apparently one which would apply only to claims for injuries sustained „during the insurrection", a limitation which might exclude many of our claims. It was again to be borne in mind that the German claim for injuries sustained between 1898 and 1900 had already been carefully examined by the German Government, and would therefore probably not be considered by them to be „arbitrable". Besides this, both the German and British Governments had already agreed that the bulk of their claims should be examined by a Mixed Commission. This ought to afford a sufficient

guarantee that Venezuela would not be unfairly treated. || I promised his Excellency that I would communicate with him further upon the subject as soon as possible.

Nr. 12915. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Minister des Ausw. an die Botschaft in Berlin. Dasselbe.

Foreign Office, December 16, 1902.

(Extract.) || The German Ambassador informed me to-day that he had received instructions from the German Government with regard to the Venezuelan proposal for arbitration. His instructions agreed with the views which he had expressed to me yesterday as those which he himself entertained, and which are recorded in my despatch to you of yesterday's date. || I informed his Excellency that the Venezuelan proposal, as it stood, was unacceptable. Our reasons for holding this opinion corresponded in the main with those which the German Government had advanced. We were, however, inclined to admit that, whilst it was impossible for us to accept arbitration in regard to our claims for compensation in cases where injury had been done to the person and property of British subjects by the misconduct of the Venezuelan Government, it was not necessary to exclude the idea of arbitration in reference to claims of a different kind. We had already provided for the reference of such claims to a Mixed Commission. It seemed to us, in these circumstances, worthy of consideration whether we might not admit the principle of arbitration in regard to these claims, and perhaps invite the United States to arbitrate upon them. || I told his Excellency that, in my opinion, it would be desirable that, whatever might be decided, we should send separate replies to the Venezuela proposal, although I thought that we should endeavour to make them as similar as possible in substance.

Nr. 12916. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Minister des Ausw. an die Botschaft in Berlin. Vorbehalt Deutschlands bei Annahme des Schiedsgerichtsvorschlags.

Foreign Office, December 18, 1902.

(Extract.) || The German Ambassador informed me to-day that the German Government were in entire agreement with us as to the manner in which the Venezuelan proposal for arbitration should be treated. || They proposed to thank the United States' Government for their good offices in communicating the Venezuelan proposal, and to say that it

seemed to offer a sufficient basis for a just settlement of the dispute. They desired, however, to make certain reservations, which his Excellency subsequently embodied in a written Memorandum running as follows: —

1. The claims, which rank first, are not in their present shape suited for settlement by arbitration. These claims, which, as far as Germany is concerned, represent the demands of German subjects in connection with the Venezuelan civil wars of 1898 to 1900, and which are specified in the Memorandum presented to the Reichstag, must therefore be immediately recognized by the Venezuelan Government. In case the latter should be unable to meet these demands immediately, reliable guarantees must at least be given for a speedy payment. || 2. All further demands contained in the two ultimatums shall be submitted to the proposed Court of Arbitration. The latter will therefore have to consider not only the claims in connection with the present Venezuelan civil war, but also, as far as Germany is concerned, the demands mentioned in the Memorandum laid before the Reichstag of German subjects arising from the non-fulfilment of liabilities incurred by contract by the Venezuelan Government. The Court of Arbitration will have to decide both on the material justification of the demands and on the ways and means of their settlement and security. || 3. We should be thankful if the President of the United States of America would be prepared to accept the office of Arbitrator.

Should, however, the United States' Government not be inclined to hold themselves responsible for the fulfilment of the Award by Venezuela, which, in the present circumstances, and considering President Castro's disposition, it may be rather difficult to guarantee, there will be no other course open but to intrust the Hague Court of Arbitration with the settlement of the matter. || The Government of the United States of America would be conferring an obligation on us if, by exerting their influence over the Venezuelan Government, they could succeed in persuading the latter to accept these proposals. || Count Metternich was instructed to inquire whether an answer on the above lines would meet with our approval. If so, the German Government would at once inform the United States' Ambassador at Berlin. It was, however, to be clearly understood that the consideration of these proposals would not oblige the two Powers to desist from the coercive measures now in progress. || His Excellency added that, since these instructions had been issued, the German Government had received a communication identical with that which had been addressed yesterday evening to His Majesty's Government by the United States' Chargé d'Affaires, intimating the hope of the

United States' Government that the two Powers would resort to arbitration. || This communication did not, in the view of the German Government, affect the proposals above described. || I told his Excellency that I would commmnicate his statement to the Cabinet, which was to meet in the afternoon, and that I had little doubt that, in principle, the two Governments would be found to entertain similar views. || I was able, later in the afternoon, to inform his Excellency that the Cabinet agreed to arbitration as a means of settling the dispute, subject to the following reservations, which he undertook to communicate to the German Government: —

1. The shipping claims are not to be referred to arbitration. || 2. In cases where the claim is for injury to, or wrongful seizure of, property, the questions which the Arbitrators will have to decide will only be: — (*a.*) Whether the injury took place, and whether the seizure was wrongful; and (*b.*) If so, what amount of compensation is due. || That, in such cases, a liability exists, must be admitted in principle. || 3. In the case of claims other than the above, we are ready to accept arbitration without any reserve.

Nr. 12917. **FRANKREICH.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in London. Frankreichs Anspruch auf die meistbegünstigte Nation in Venezuela.

Paris, le 18 Décembre, 1902,
(Communicated by M. Cambon, December 19.)

Affaires du Venezuela. || Les Gouvernements des États-Unis, d'Espagne, et de Belgique, ayant décidé de réclamer la clause de la nation la plus favorisée pour le réglement de toutes les demandes d'indemnités de leurs ressortissants, le Gouvernement de la République a cru devoir également assurer toutes garanties aux intérêts de ses nationaux. || Le Représentant Français à Carácas a, en conséquence, été invité à réclamer pour la liquidation de nos réclamations fondées sur des faits postérieurs au 23 Mai, 1899, un mode de réglement et de paiement aussi favorable que celui obtenu par toute autre Puissance. || Quant à nos réclamations pour faits antérieurs au 23 Mai, 1899 (c'est-à-dire, l'élection du Président Castro), leur mode de réglement a été prévu par le Traité de 1885 et le Protocole de 1902; mais comme il y a lieu de veiller à ce que nos avantages sur ce point ne soient pas diminués, le Représentant Français a également reçu pour instruction, au cas où l'une des autres Puissances créancières obtiendrait pour ses réclamations remontant à la même époque un

mode de réglement plus avantageux, d'en réclamer aussitôt le bénéfice. || Comme nous tenons en ces circonstances à tenir le Gouvernement Britannique au courant de nos résolutions, je vous prie de lui faire connaître verbalement le sens des instructions envoyées à notre Agent.

Nr. 12918. **VEREINIGTE STAATEN.** — Der Botschafter in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Der amerikanische Gesandte in Caracas hat Vollmacht von Venezuela für die Verhandlungen erhalten.

American Embassy, London, December 19, 1902. (December 19.)

My Lord, || I have the honour to inform your Lordship that Mr. Bowen, the American Minister to Venezuela, has informed my Government by telegraph that the Venezuelan Government has conferred upon him full powers to enter into negotiations on the part of Venezuela to settle the present difficulties with Great Britain, Germany, and Italy. || I am instructed by Mr. Secretary Hay to communicate the Venezuelan proposition to your Lordship, and to ascertain whether His Majesty's Government be disposed to assent thereto. Henry White.

Nr. 12919. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter der Vereinigten Staaten. Antwort auf das vorige.

Foreign Office, December 19, 1902.

Sir, || I have had the honour to receive your note of to-day's date, informing me that Mr. Bowen, the American Minister at Carácas, had informed the United States' Government that the Venezuelan Government had conferred upon him full powers to enter into negotiations on the part of Venezuela to settle the present difficulties with Great Britain, Germany, and Italy. || His Majesty's Government have, as you are aware, already accepted the proposal of the Venezuelan Government to refer to arbitration the matters in controversy between the two Governments, and have expressed their hope that the President of the United States will consent to act as Arbitrator. The conditions under which such arbitration might take place have been fully considered, and I hope very shortly to make you aware of them. || In these circumstances, His Majesty's Government prefer not to abandon the proposals which they have already made, proposals which seem to them to afford every hope of a satisfac-

tory settlement, in order to adopt the alternative procedure which the Venezuelan Government have apparently now suggested.

Lansdowne.

Nr. 12920. DEUTSCHES REICH. — Das Ausw. Amt an den Botschafter der Vereinigten Staaten. Annahme des Schiedsgerichts unter Vorbehalten.

(Translation.) || The Imperial Government wish to express to that of the United States their best thanks for the efforts of the latter to settle in a satisfactory manner the undesired controversy with Venezuela. The proposal made by the United States that an Arbitrator should be appointed seems both to Germany and England to be a satisfactory basis for arriving at a fair settlement of their claims. But the two Powers consider it necessary to make certain reservations: — || 1. Among their claims are some which in their present stage are not suited for submission to arbitration. Claims of this nature, so far as Germany is concerned, are those which originated in the Venezuelan civil wars from 1898 to 1900, and of which details are given in the inclosed Memorandum of the 8th December, which was communicated to the Reichstag. It will be seen that they consist of claims on account of acts of violence on the part of the Venezuelan Government or their agents, and that after years of procrastination, and in spite of the repeated representations made by the Imperial Government, satisfactory compensation has been refused in a well-nigh insulting manner. This class of claims, which after careful examination by the Imperial Government amount to a total of 1 700 000 bolivares (325 000 dollars), will therefore have to be admitted by the Venezuelan Government without delay; and the latter must, if they are unable to pay at once, give at least a safe guarantee for prompt payment. || 2. All other claims which have been put forward in the two ultimata could be submitted to the Arbitrator, and the latter will therefore have to deal not only with the claims arising out of the present civil war in Venezuela, but also, so far as Germany is concerned, with the claims of German subjects in connection with the non-fulfilment of the engagements alluded to in the above-mentioned Memorandum, which the Venezuelan Government have undertaken under contracts made with those Germans. || 3. The Arbitrator will have to decide both about the intrinsic justification of each separate claim and about the manner in which they are to be satisfied and guaranteed. In the case of claims in connection with damage done to, or unjustifiable seizure of, property, the Venezuelan

Government will have to recognize their liability in principle, so that the question of liability will not form the subject of arbitration, but the Arbitrator will be concerned solely in the questions of the illegality of the damage or seizure, and also of the amount of compensation to be awarded. || The Government of the United States of America would be conferring an obligation on the Imperial and British Governments if, by exerting their influence over the Venezuelan Government, they could succeed in persuading the latter to accept these proposals. The two Governments would also be grateful if the President of the United States were disposed to undertake the office of Arbitrator under the above conditions. || Should the President of the United States not be inclined to do so, which would be to the regret of the two Governments, they are also prepared to submit the matter to the Arbitration Tribunal at the Hague.

Nr. 12921. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter der Vereinigten Staaten. Annahme des Schiedsgerichts unter Vorbehalten.

December 23, 1902.

His Majesty's Government have in consultation with the German Government taken into their careful consideration the proposal communicated by the United States' Government at the instance of that of Venezuela. || The proposal is as follows: — || That the present difficulty respecting the manner of settling claims for injuries to British and German subjects during the insurrection be submitted to arbitration. || The scope and intention of this proposal would obviously require further explanation. Its effect would apparently be to refer to arbitration only such claims as had reference to injuries resulting from the recent insurrection. This formula would evidently include a part only of the claims put forward by the two Governments, and we are left in doubt as to the manner in which the remaining claims are to be dealt with. || Apart, however, from this, some of the claims are of a kind which no Government could agree to refer to arbitration. The claims for injuries to the person and property of British subjects owing to the confiscation of British vessels, the plundering of their contents, and the maltreatment of their crews, as well as some claims for the ill-usage and false imprisonment of British subjects, are of this description. The amount of these claims is comparatively insignificant, but the principle at stake is of the first importance, and His Majesty's Government could not admit that there was any doubt as to te liability of the Venezuelan Government in

respect of them. || His Majesty's Government desire, moreover, to draw attention to the circumstances under which arbitration is now proposed to them. || The Venezuelan Government have during the last six months had ample opportunities for submitting such a proposal. On the 29th July and again on the 11th November, it was intimated to them in the clearest language that unless His Majesty's Government received satisfactory assurances from them, and unless some steps were taken to compensate the parties injured by their conduct, it would become necessary for His Majesty's Government to enforce their just demands. No attention was paid to these solemn warnings, and, in consequence of the manner in which they were disregarded, His Majesty's Government found themselves reluctantly compelled to have recourse to the measures of coercion which are now in progress. || His Majesty's Government have, moreover, already agreed that in the event of the Venezuelan Government making a Declaration that they will recognize the principle of the justice of the British claims, and that they will at once pay compensation in the shipping cases, and in the cases where British subjects have been falsely imprisoned or maltreated, His Majesty's Government will be ready so far as the remaining claims are concerned, to accept the decision of a Mixed Commission, which will determine the amount to be paid and the security to be given for payment. A corresponding intimation has been made by the German Government. || This mode of procedure seemed to both Governments to provide a reasonable and adequate mode of disposing of their claims. They have, however, no objection to substitute for the Special Commission a reference to arbitration, with certain essential reservations. These reservations are, so far as the British claims are concerned, as follows: — || 1. The claims (small, as has already been pointed out, in pecuniary amount) arising out of the seizure and plundering of British vessels and outrages on their crews, and the maltreatment and false imprisonment of British subjects, are not to be referred to arbitration. || 2. In cases where the claim is for injury to or wrongful seizure of property, the questions which the Arbitrators will have to decide will only be (*a*), whether the injury took place, and whether the seizure was wrongful, and (*b*), if so, what amount of compensation is due. That in such cases a liability exists must be admitted in principle. || 3. In the case of claims other than the above, we are ready to accept arbitration without any reserve. || It would, in the opinion of both Governments, be necessary that the Arbitral Tribunal should not only determine the amount of compensation payable by Venezuela, but should also define the security to be given by the Venezuelan Government, and the means to

be resorted to for the purpose of guaranteeing a sufficient and punctual discharge of the obligation.

Should the President of the United States be willing to undertake the task of Arbitrator, the British and German Governments would avail themselves of his good offices with the highest satisfaction. || If it should unfortunately prove impossible for the President to render this important service to the two Governments, they are prepared to refer the questions at issue to arbitration by the Hague Tribunal.

Nr. 12922. **VEREINIGTE STAATEN.** — Der Botschafter in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Der Präsident ist mit den Vorschlägen der Mächte einverstanden.

American Embassy, London, December 27, 1902. (December 27.)

My Lord, || With reference to recent interviews with your Lordship relative to the submission to arbitration of the questions at issue between Great Britain and Venezuela, and particularly to the Memorandum which you were so good as to hand me on the 23rd instant, I have the honour to inform you that the President of the United States profoundly appreciates the courtesy with which the Powers in interest have suggested his name as Arbitrator in the matters now pending in Venezuela; and if no other — or no better — means of settling the subjects in dispute presented themselves, he would willingly comply with the wishes of the Powers and give his best efforts to an end so laudable. But the President has thought it most desirable from the beginning that the entire controversy should be submitted to the judgment of that high Tribunal at the Hague, which has been created by the principal Powers of the world for the consideration of precisely such causes, involving, as the present controversy does, no question of national honour nor the cession of territory. || After a thorough consultation with all of the Powers concerned, during which the President has found an honourable spirit of candour and of mutual consideration animating every one of them, he has been greatly gratified to learn that, in the event of his not undertaking the important duty to which the Powers have invited him, they would all be willing to accept a reference to the Hague. || The President has therefore the greatest pleasure in announcing to the Government of Great Britain, Germany, Italy, and Venezuela that all of them have accepted in principle the proposition of a reference of pending questions to the Tribunal of the Hague. || If the President can be of any further

service in arranging the preliminaries of such an understanding, he will gladly hold himself at the disposition of the Powers concerned; and if their Representatives should find it desirable to meet in Washington, he would be happy to welcome them there and to facilitate their labours in every possible way. Henry White.

Nr. 12923. **VEREINIGTE STAATEN.** — Der Botschafter in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Castro erkennt grundsätzlich die Forderungen der Mächte an. Die Verhandlungen sollen in Washington geführt werden.

American Embassy, London, January 1, 1903. (January 1.)

My Lord, || I have the honour, in accordance with instructions from my Government, to communicate to your Lordship the following copy of a telegram, which was received yesterday by Mr. Secretary Hay from Mr. Bowen, American Minister to Venezuela: —

„I have received the following answer from the President of Venezuela: || „I recognize, in principle, the claims which the allied Powers have presented to Venezuela. They would already have been settled if it had not been that the civil war required all the attention and all the resources of the Government. To-day the Government bows to superior force, and desires to send Mr. Bowen to Washington at once, to confer there with the Representatives of the Powers that have claims against Venezuela, in order to arrange either an immediate settlement of all the claims, or the preliminaries for a reference to the Tribunal of The Hague, or to an American Republic, to be selected by the allied Powers and by the Government of Venezuela. Mr. Bowen would be duly authorized to settle the whole question as the Representative of Venezuela.“ (Signed) Cipriano Castro.

Copies of the foregoing telegram from Mr. Bowen have also been transmitted by the Secretary of State to the American Ambassadors at Berlin and Rome. Henry White.

Nr. 12924. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Berlin. Unterredung mit Metternich. Vor den Verhandlungen muß Venezuela gewisse Ansprüche anerkennen.

Foreign Office, January 2, 1903.

(Extract.) || Sir, || The German Ambassador called on me this afternoon for the purpose of discussing the answer received from the Presi-

dent of the Venezuelan Republic by the United States' Government, and by them transmitted to the British and German Governments, with regard to the mode of settling the Venezuela dispute. || Count Metternich observed that in the Venezuelan reply it was not stated with sufficient distinctness whether the conditions proposed by the two Powers were unreservedly accepted; he said that in the view of the German Government it would be necessary to obtain in the first instance from the Venezuelan Government a positive declaration of their acceptance of the conditions upon wich the German and British Governments had insisted, and that they should be required to explain the manner in which they intended to guarantee the fulfilment of any obligations which they might contract in connection with the Arbitrator's Award. || It seemed to the German Government that if satisfactory assurances were given in this respect, the Powers concerned would then be in a position „to enter into a discussion, with regard to the manner in which the question should be further dealt with". || I said that I held strongly — and in this I agreed with the view of the German Government, which his Excellency had been good enough to communicate to me — that we ought on no account to allow our Representatives at Washington or elsewhere to enter into any discussions with Mr. Bowen until we had obtained from the Venezuelan Government a distient statement that they unreservedly accepted and agreed to be bound by the conditions numbered 1, 2, and 3 in the Memorandum which I communicated to Mr. White on the 23rd December, 1902, and also by the further condition described in the paragraph which follows. An extract of the Memorandum, showing the passages referred to, is inclosed for convenience of reference.*) || If these conditions were unreservedly accepted, I thought we might authorize our Representative at Washington to meet Mr. Bowen, and to consider any proposals which he might have to make either for (*a*) „an immediate settlement of all the claims", or (*b*) the preliminaries for a reference to the Hague Tribunal. || It should, I thought, be made clear that our readiness to discuss (*a*) should in no way prejudice our right to demand a reference to the Hague. || It would in this case, I thought, have to be clearly understood that Mr. Bowen appeared merely as a Commissioner on the part of the Venezuelan Government, and not in his official capacity as United States' Minister at Carácas. || I added that it would, in my opinion, be unwise to exclude any arrangement which might possibly afford the pro-

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*) In einer Beilage sind die Punkte 1, 2, 3 von Nr. 12921 hinzugefügt. Red.

spect of a more expeditious settlement than any which could be expected from the Hague Tribunal.

Nr. 12925. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Derselbe an Denselben. Antwort Deutschlands an die Vereinigten Staaten.

Foreign Office, January 3, 1903.

Sir, || The German Ambassador handed to me this afternoon the inclosed copy of the reply which his Government will make to President Castro's communication.

Lansdowne.

Anlage.

Draft of Letter to the American Ambassador at Berlin.

(Translation.) || The German Government has learnt with satisfaction that the Venezuelan Government accepts in principle the German demands. Before entering into further negotiations with Venezuela on this basis, it appears necessary that President Castro should give a definite declaration that he accepts, unconditionally, the reservations contained in the German Memorandum of the 22nd December, 1902, besides which he must specially make clear in what manner he intends to pay the demands contained in that Memorandum or to give security for the amount. || When the Venezuelan Government has given a satisfactory declaration, the Imperial Government would be ready to instruct their Ambassador at Washington to begin negotiations with Mr. Bowen, and to consider his proposals for the settlement of the matter. These proposals would, apart from the demands specified under (1) of the Memorandum, cover either an immediate regulation of all the claims or their reference to the Hague Tribunal. The German Government assumes that, if any proposals for immediate settlement are discussed, their rights as to referring the matter to the Hague Tribunal will in no way be prejudiced thereby. || The Imperial Government would be very grateful to the Government of the United States if the latter would transmit this reply to President Castro.

Nr. 12926. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter der Vereinigten Staaten. Antwort auf Nr. (12923).

Foreign Office, January 5, 1903.

Sir, || I have the honour to inform you, in reply to your communication of the 1st instant, that His Majesty's Government have taken into

consideration the answer received by Mr. Secretary Hay from the President of the Venezuelan Republic to the proposals contained in the Memorandum which, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, I handed to you on the 23rd December, 1902. ‖ His Majesty's Government observe with satisfaction President Castro's statement that he recognizes „in principle“ the claims which they have put forward. His Majesty's Government understand this statement to signify that President Castro agrees, on the part of the Venezuelan Government, that any discussions in which Mr. Bowen, as the Representative of that Government, is to engage at Washington with the Representative of His Majesty's Government are to proceed upon the assumption that the Venezuelan Government unreservedly accept, and agree to be bound by the conditions laid down in the Memorandum of the 23rd December, 1902, which run as follows: — ‖ „1. The claims (small, as has already been pointed out, in pecuniary amount) arising out of the seizure and plundering of British vessels and outrages on their crews, and the maltreatment and false imprisonment of British subjects, are not to be referred to arbitration. ‖ „2. In cases where the claim is for injury to, or wrongful seizure of, property, the questions which the Arbitrators will have to decide will only be: (*a*) whether the injury took place, and whether the seizure was wrongful; and (*b*) if so, what amount of compensation is due. That in such cases a liability exists must be admitted in principle. ‖ „3. In the case of claims other than the above, we are ready to accept arbitration without any reserve. ‖ „It would, in the opinion of both Governments“ (British and German), „be necessary that the Arbitral Tribunal should not only determine the amount of compensation payable by Venezuela, but should also define the security to be given by the Venezuelan Government, and the means to be resorted to for the purpose of guaranteeing a sufficient and punctual discharge of the obligation.“ ‖ On receiving a definitive assurance from President Castro that this interpretation of his language is accepted by him as correct, and that whatever procedure be adopted adequate provision will be made for the prompt satisfaction of the claims specified in paragraph (1), His Majesty's Government will be prepared to authorize His Majesty's Ambassador at Washington to confer on this basis with Mr. Bowen, as the Representative of the Venezuelan Government, and will furnish Sir M. Herbert with the necessary instructions for examining the possibility of an immediate settlement, or, failing such a settlement, for arranging a reference of all points left open for arbitration to the Tribunal at the Hague. ‖ His Majesty's Government will be much obliged if Mr. Secretary Hay will be good enough to take such steps as

may be necessary to communicate the substance of this Memorandum to President Castro, and will request an answer at the President's earliest convenience. Lansdowne.

Nr. 12927. **VEREINIGTE STAATEN.** — Der Botschafter in London an den englischen Minister des Ausw. Venezuela nimmt die deutsch-englischen Bedingungen an.

American Embassy, London, January 9, 1903. (January 9.)

My Lord, || I have the honour, in accordance with instructions from my Government, to communicate to your Lordship the copy of a telegram which was received yesterday morning by Mr. Secretary Hay from Mr. Bowen, the American Minister at Carácas: —

„I have just received the following from President Castro:

„Mr. Minister, || The Venezuelan Government accepts the conditions of Great Britain and Germany, and requests you to go immediately to Washington for the purpose of conferring there with the diplomatic Representatives of Great Britain, Germany, and with the diplomatic Representatives of the other nations that have claims against Venezuela, and to arrange either an immediate settlement of said claims, or the preliminaries for submitting them to arbitration. —

(Signed) Cipriano Castro, *Constitutional President.*

„‚(Confidential.) || If, as I understand, Great Britain and Germany want to know what guarantee they will have, please inform them that it will be the custom-houses; consequently, I beg that the blockade be raised at once.' (Signed) „Bowen."

I am instructed, furthermore, to inform your Lordship that Mr. Bowen will proceed to Washington immediately. Henry White

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Nr. 12928. **DEUTSCHES REICH.** — Antwort auf Nr. (218).

Memorandum communicated by Count Metternich. January 10, 1903.

(Translation.) || The Imperial Government interprets the reply from President Castro of the 8th January, 1903, to mean that he accepts unconditionally the reservations made in the German note of the 22nd December, 1902. The Venezuelan Government would, therefore, have to pay the claim mentioned in reservation 1, or provide a guarantee for its payment, before entering into the negotiations. As President Castro's answer contains no statement as to when or how this payment is to be made or this guarantee given, further information is necessary as regards

this point. In particular, in the event of there being no immediate payment, the security would have to be clearly explained, and it would have to be laid down, in the event of the guarantee being on the customs, by what method payment would be effected from the latter. No further negotiations with Venezuela could be entered upon until payment has been effected or sufficient security actually given. || The Imperial Government ventures to request the Government of the United States to transmit this answer also to President Castro.

Nr. 12929. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Washington. Instruktion für die Verhandlungen.

Foreign Office, January 13, 1903.

Sir, || Your Excellency is aware from the papers transmitted to you that on the 13th December the United States' Chargé d'Affaires addressed a note ta me, stating that the Government of Venezuela had requested the United States' Minister at Carácas to communicate to His Majesty's Government a proposition to the effect that the difficulty respecting the manner of settling claims for injuries to British subjects during the insurrection in Venezuela should be submitted to arbitration. || Mr. White told me on the 17th December that he had received instructions to inform me that the Venezuelan Government now earnestly wish for arbitration, which, in the opinion of the United States' Government, seemed to afford a most desirable solution of the questions in dispute. || The proposal thus put forward through the Government of the United States received most careful consideration, and on the 23rd December I handed to Mr. White the reply of His Majesty's Government, which was as follows: — (folgt Nr. 12921).

By a note dated the 27th December, Mr. White informed me that the President of the United States profoundly appreciated the courtesy with which the Powers in interest had suggested his name as Arbitrator in the matters now pending in Venezuela; and if no other — or no better — means of settling the subjects in dispute presented themselves, he would willingly comply with the wishes of the Powers, and give his best efforts to an end so laudable. But the President had thought it most desirable from the beginning that the entire controversy should be submitted to the judgment of that high Tribunal at the Hague which had been created by the principal Powers of the world for the consideration of precisely such causes, involving, as the

present controversy did, no question of national honour nor the cession of territory. || After a thorough consultation with all of the Powers concerned, during which the President had found an honourable spirit of candour and of mutual consideration animating every one of them, he had been greatly gratified to learn that, in the event of his not undertaking the important duty to which the Powers had invited him, they would all be willing to accept a reference to the Hague. || The President had, therefore, the greatest pleasure in announcing to the Governments of Great Britain, Germany, Italy, and Venezuela that all of them had accepted in principle the proposition of a reference of pending questions to the Tribunal of the Hague. || If the President could be of any further service in arranging the preliminaries of such an understanding, he would gladly hold himself at the disposition of the Powers concerned; and if their Representatives should find it desirable to meet in Washington he would be happy to welcome them there, and to facilitate their labours in every possible way. || In handing me this note, Mr. White inquired whether, as the Venezuelan Government had accepted the principle of arbitration by the Hague Tribunal, the President was at liberty to communicate to that Government the conditions embolied in my communication of the 23rd instant. || I told Mr. White that there could be no objection to this. I expressed the regret with which I had learnt that the President hat found himself unable to undertake the office of Arbitrator, and I took note of his considerate offer to hold himself at the disposition of the Powers concerned, in the event of his assistance being required in arranging the preliminaries of a reference to arbitration. I added, however, that it seemed to me that, for the moment, there was nothing more to be done until we knew whether our terms were acceptable to the Venezuelan Government. || On the 1st instant Mr. White communicated to me the following copy of a telegram received on the previous day by Mr. Secretary Hay from Mr. Bowen, the United States' Minister at Carácas: — (folgt Nr. 12923).

They observed with satisfaction President Castro's statement, that he recognized „in principle“ the claims which they had put forward. His Majesty's Government understood this statement to signify that President Castro agreed on the part of the Venezuelan Government that any discussions in which Mr. Bowen, as the Representative of that Government, was to engage at Washington with the Representative of His Majesty's Government were to proceed upon the assumption that the Venezuelan Government unreservedly accepted and agreed to be bound by the conditions laid down on the 23rd December. || On receiving

a definite assurance from President Castro that this interpretation of his language was accepted by him as correct, and that whatever procedure were adopted adequate provision would be made for the prompt satisfaction of the claims specified in paragraph 1 of the conditions, His Majesty's Government would be prepared to authorize His Majesty's Ambassador at Washington to confer on this basis with Mr. Bowen, as the Representative of the Venezuelan Government, and would furnish your Excellency with the necessary instructions for examining the possibility of an immediate settlement, or, failing such a settlement, for arranging a reference of all points left open for arbitration to the Tribunal at the Hague. || The reply from the President of Venezuela, received by Mr. Hay on the 8th instant and transmitted to me by Mr. White on the 9th in the form of a telegram from Mr. Bowen, was as follows: — (folgt Nr. 12917.)

Mr. White was instructed to inform me at same time that Mr. Bowen would proceed to Washington immediately, and I have since learned that he is expected to reach New York on the 19th instant. || I have now to give your Excellency the following instructions: — || Mr. Bowen will no doubt on his arrival at Washington ask you either directly or through the United States' Government to receive him, and you should in reply intimate that you are authorized to confer with him, as the Representative of the Venezuelan Government, for the purpose of examining the possibility of an immediate settlement of the claims put forward by His Majesty's Government, or, failing such a settlement, of arranging a reference of all points left open for arbitration to the Tribunal at The Hague. || The course of the negotiations will, in a great measure, depend upon the instructions with which Mr. Bowen has been furnished, and you will, in the first place, ascertain whether the proposals which he is empowered to submit are in strict accordance with the conditions set forth in my Memorandum of the 23rd December and note of the 5th January, to which reference has been already made. || Whether those proposals are made in contemplation of an immediate settlement without reference to arbitration, or whether the discussion is directed to the preliminaries of arbitration, it will be indispensable that Mr. Bowen should at the outset satisfy you that he is authorized to arrive at a prompt and satisfactory settlement of those British claims which are included in the first of the three categories enumerated in the Memorandum of the 23rd December, claims namely which arise out of the seizure and plundering of British vessels and the outrages on their crews, and the maltreatment and false imprisonment of British subjects. These claims amount to about 5 500 *l.*, and His Majesty's Government

require that this liability should be at once satisfied. || Other claims for compensation, including the railway claims and those for injury to, or wrongful seizure of, property are estimated as amounting to about 600 000 *l*. His Majesty's Government will be ready to accept in satisfaction of these claims either a sufficient cash payment or a guarantee based on security which must be adequate, and which the Venezuelan Government must be bound not to alienate for any other purpose. His Majesty's Government will be ready to renew the proposal which they deemed it equitable to make in the first instance, viz., that, before the amount to be actually handed over to claimants of this class is finally decided, a Commission, upon which Venezuela would be represented, should be appointed to examine and report upon the amount to be awarded in satisfaction of each claim. It would probably be convenient that the Commission, if appointed, should meet at Port of Spain. Should a cash payment have been accepted by His Majesty's Government they will be prepared to refund any surplus which may be available after the examination. || It is desirable that advantage should be taken of this opportunity in order to effect a settlement of the claims of the bondholders. The British creditors are principally interested in the loan of 1881. This loan represents the outcome of various arrangements under which the bondholders have submitted to large reductions in their claims. On the 31st December last there were fifty-six monthly instalments of the debt service in arrear representing a sum of abaut 394 625 *l*. An arrangement for the settlement of the External Debt of Venezuela has been drawn up by the Council of Foreign Bondholders and the Disconto Gesellschaft of Berlin. The terms of this arrangement seem to be of a liberal character, and should be acceptable to the Venezuelan Government. I understand that in March 1901 the Venezuelan National Assembly passed a Law authorizing the President to make a settlement with the Bondholders on these lines. I inclose copies of Memoranda furnished to me by the Council of Foreign Bondholders, showing the present position of the 1881 and 1896 loans. || If the endeavour to arrive at a direct settlement should prove unavailing, you will proceed to discuss with Mr. Bowen the preliminaries of a reference to the Tribunal of Arbitration at the Hague. || Before the signature of an Agreement for reference to the Tribunal it will be necessary that the claims in the first category should, as in the case of a direct settlement, be disposed of by an immediate payment. The other claims, including those for injury to property and the claims of the bondholders, would be submitted to the Tribunal on the conditions laid down in the Memorandum of the 23rd December. || There is another

point which you should take an early opportunity of mentioning to Mr. Bowen. The establishment of a blockade created *ipso facto* a state of war between Great Britain and Venezuela, involving, it might possibly be contended, the abrogation of any Treaty existing between the two countries. In these circumstances, you should suggest an exchange of notes between your Excellency, as His Majesty's Representative, and Mr. Bowen, as Representative of the United States of Venezuela, to the effect that it is agreed that the Convention between Great Britain and Venezuela of the 29th October, 1834, which adopted and confirmed (*mutatis mutandis*) the Treaty of the 18th April, 1825, between Great Britain and the State of Colombia, shall be deemed to be renewed and confirmed, or, if the Venezuelan Government should prefer, provisionally renewed and confirmed pending the conclusion of a fresh Treaty of Amity and Commerce. || It may be convenient that I should recapitulate briefly the instructions contained in the preceding paragraphs.

1. If an arrangement is concluded for a direct settlement: || (*a.*) Claims arising out of the seizure and plundering of British vessels and the outrages on their crews, and the maltreatment and false imprisonment of British subjects, must be at once satisfied. || (*b.*) Other claims for compensation, including the railway claims and those for injury to, or wrongful seizure of, property, must be met either by an immediate payment to His Majesty's Government or by a guarantee adequate, in your opinion, to secure them. These claims can, if this be desired, examined by a Mixed Commission before they are finally liquidated. || (*c.*) A fresh arrangement must be entered into by the Venezuelan Government in order to satisfy the claims of the bondholders, and this arrangement must include a definition of the sources from which the necessary payments are to be provided. || 2. If recourse is had to the Tribunal at the Hague: || (*a.*) Immediate payment must be equally made of the claims in the first category. (*b.*) The other claims, including those of the bondholders, will be referred to the Tribunal on the conditions laid down in the Memorandum of the 23rd December. || In either case, there must be an exchange of notes renewing the Convention of the 29th October, 1834. || On learning that the negotiations have resulted in an agreement fulfilling the above conditions, His Majesty's Government will at once give orders that the blockade of the Venezuelan ports by His Majesty's ships shall be raised. They will also be prepared to restore the vessels of the Venezuelan navy which have been seized, and, further, to release any other vessels captured under the Venezuelan flag on receipt of a guarantee from the Venezuelan Government that they will hold His Majesty's Government

indemnified in respect of any proceedings which might be taken against them by the owners of such ships or of goods on board them. || All obstacles to the renewal of diplomatic intercourse will then have been removed, and His Majesty's Government will be happy to re-establish those friendly relations between Great Britain and Venezuela which previously existed, and which they sincerely desire to resume.

Lansdowne.

Anlage.

Memoranda on Venezuelan Loans of 1881 and 1896.

Loan of 1881.

In 1834 Venezuela became responsible for 28½ per cent. of the original Columbia. Dept which was contracted in this country to carry on the war of independance against Spain. The amount of debt so assumed by Venezuela was 1 888 396 *l.* principal and 906 430 *l.* arrears of interest. Total, 2 794 826 *l.* || Until 1841 no interest was paid on this debt. In that year a settlement was made by which the bondholders submitted to considerable sacrifices. || In 1847 default occurred. In 1859 an arrangement was made, when further concessions were demanded of the bondholders. Default again took place in the following year. || In 1862 the arrears of interest under the 1859 arrangement were funded and a new loan of 1 000 000 *l.* was issued. || In 1864 a further Loan for 1 500 000 *l.* was floated. In the same year payments on the 1859 and 1862 Loans were discontinued, and in 1867 default was made on the 1864 Loan. With the exception of a payment of 3*s.* in the £ on the coupons in 1876—8, the whole of the loans remained in default until 1881. In that year the loans of 1859, 1862, and 1864 were converted into a New Consolidated Debt, the bondholders once more having to submit to large reductions. || Interest on the Consolidated Debt was reduced to 3 per cent. until the unification of the External and Internal Debts could be effected, when it was to be increased to 4 per cent. Venezuela, however, raised various difficulties in the way of the unification being carried out, and has newer paid more than 3 per cent. || In 1897 default again took place; since then a small amount has been remitted at irregular intervals sufficient to pay off the balance of the coupon due February 1898, and half the coupon due August 1898. || At the present time the amount of principal outstanding is 66 614 550 bolivares, or, say, 2 638 200 *l.*, and the amount due for the service of the debt in arrear up to the 31st December, 1902, 56 monthly instalments of 177 933 58 bolivares, equivalent to 9 964 280 bolivares, or, say, 394 625 *l.* || During the 69 years

that have elapsed since Venezuela became an independent State it may be reckoned that the External Debt contracted in this country has been in default for nearly 40 years, and that during the same period the Republic has compelled the bondholders to accept five arrangements, under each of which they have had to submit to large sacrifices of their rightful claims.

Five per Cent. Loan of 1896.

This loan was for 50 000 000 bolivares, or, say, 1 980 198 *l*. It was issued through the Disconto Gesellschaft of Berlin for the purpose of settling the railway guarantees in arrear and the redemption of the same guarantees in the future, the acquisition of some of the railways by the Government, and the completion of the Central Railway. || The amount of bonds issued to English Companies was 6 800 00 bolivares, or, say, 269 307 *l*. These Companies had to submit to large reductions of their claims. || The service of the loan went into default in 1897; between that date and 1901 some small payments were made by the Venezuelan Government which were sufficient to discharge the June 1898 coupon, and 56 per cent. of the December 1898 coupon and sinking fund. || The amount of the principal outstanding is 48 807 440 bolivares, or, say, 1 932 967 *l*., and the amount of be interest and sinking fund in arrear to the 31st December, 1902, is 12 660 097 bolivares, or, say, 501 390 *l*. || The loan bears 5 per cent. interest and 1 per cent. accumulative sinking fund, and is secured on a sufficient amount of the customs revenues of the Republic provide 3 000 000 bolivares annually. No other loan enjoying equal or better rights can be issued by Venezuela until the 1896 Loan has been entirely repaid.

Nr. 12930. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Berlin. Unterredung mit dem deutschen Botschafter über die Verhandlungen mit Bowen.

Foreign Office, January 15, 1903.

Sir, || I had some conversation yesterday with the German Ambassador in regard to the action which might be taken by the British and German Governments in consequence of the communication made to us on the 9th instant by the Government of the United States as to Venezuelan affairs. || His Excellency asked me whether His Majesty's Government had sent any reply to the communication in question, and I informed him that its receipt had been acknowledged, but that we had

not thought is necessary to make any comments upon its contents. I had, however, had several conversations with the United States' Chargé d'Affaires, whom I had informed that, in the view of His Majesty's Government, it was desirable that our Representative at Washington should discuss the questions at issue with Mr. Bowen on his arrival at that place. || His Excellency explained to me that the German Government interpreted President Castro's reply of the 8th January to mean that he accepted unconditionally the reservations made in the German note of the 22nd December, 1902. The Venezuelan Government would, therefore, have to pay the claim mentioned in Reservation I, or provide a guarantee for its prompt payment, before entering into negotiations. The German Government considered that, as President Castro's answer contained no statement as to when or how this payment was to be made, or this guarantee given, further information was necessary on the point. || In particular, should there be no immediate payment, the security would have to be clearly explained, and it would have to be laid down, in the event of the guarantee being on the customs, by what method payment would be effected from the latter. The German Government thought that no further negotiations with Venezuela ought to be entered into until payment had been effected or sufficient security actually given, and they suggested that His Majesty's Government should reply in this sense. || I told His Excellency that it did not seem to me desirable that we should attempt at this stage to press President Castro further upon these points. As I understood the matter, Mr. Bowen had been entrusted with full powers by the Venezuelan Government. President Castro had, by accepting our conditions, admitted that it was essential that arrangements should be made for the settlement of the first rank claims, and a provision for such settlement should, I thought, be insisted upon by the Representatives of both Powers before they attempted to discuss other points with Mr. Bowen. || His Excellency called my attention to the fact that President Castro's letter apparently contemplated that Mr. Bowen should confer not only with the Representatives of Great Britain and Germany, but with those of all other nations having claims against Venezuela. His Excellency regarded this intimation with some alarm. || I said that it seemed to me that the blockading Powers stood on an entirely different footing from the rest, and that, in my view, it would be impossible for us to allow our Representatives to take part in a general discussion at which a number of other Powers would also be represented. || In my view the most convenient procedure would be that the British and German Representatives should negotiate separately with

Mr. Bowen, but should keep one another fully informed as to their proceedings. || I subsequently communicated to his Excellency a copy of my despatch of the 13th, containing my instructions to Sir M. Herbert. His Excellency called upon me to-day and informed me that he had telegraphed the purport of these of the German Government, and that they entirely concurred with us as to the general tenour of the instructions. They also thought that it might be convenient that the British and German Representatives should negotiate separately with Mr. Bowen. It was, however, important that they should remain in touch with one another, and it was in particular desirable that any arrangement arrived at in regard to the bondholders should be concurred in by both Representatives. It was impossible to distinguish between the claims of the British and those of the German bondholders, and they had, in fact, arrived at an agreement for a common scheme, which we regarded as a reasonable compromise.

Lansdowne.

Nr. 12931. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Washington an den Minister des Ausw. Venezuela nimmt die gestellten Bedingungen an. Grundlage der Verhandlung.

Washington, January 23, 1903. (January 24.)

(Telegraphic.) || Venezuela. Mr. Bowen accepts, without reserve, the conditions laid down by His Majesty's Government. || For the payment of claims of the second category he proposes that 30 per cent. of the receipts of the Puerto Cabello and La Guayra custom-houses should be made over to the Powers every month, and that, should Venezuela fail to make this payment, the creditor nations shall be authorized to administer the said two custom-houses, putting in Belgian officials, with the consent of, and without opposition on the part of Venezuela, until the entire foreign debt is paid. || Mr. Bowen gives as his reason for selecting Puerto and La Guayra that they are the most important ports in the country, and that, owing to their geographical position, they are not liable, as the others are, to fall into the hands of the revolutionists at any moment, but will remain under the control of the Government. || Mr. Bowen informs me that 25 per cent. of the customs receipts are already devoted to the maintenance of the local State Government in which each port is situated, and 13 per cent. to the payment of existing Diplomatic claims. Adding to this the 30 per cent. now promised, only 32 per cent.

would be left for the expenses of the Government and the payment of the army, and Venezuela could not possibly get on with less.

Nr. 12932. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Minister des Answ. an den Botschafter in Washington. Fordert nähere Erläuterung der Grundlagen.

The Marquess of Lansdowne to Sir M. Herbert.

Foreign Office, January 24, 1903.

(Telegraphic.) || The proposals made by Mr. Bowen, as reported in your telegram of to-day's date, are considered by His Majesty's Government to be satisfactory in principle, and would be useful as a basis for the discussion which is about to be commenced by your Excellency. || Without fuller explanations, however, as to the financial arrangements which are proposed, it is impossible to realize their effect, and as regards certain points we should require definite information. || These points are as follows: — || 1. There are, so far as we are aware, no published statistics as regards the customs receipts of La Guayra and Puerto Cabello. What is their estimated annual value? || 2. It is impossible to judge to what extent the proposals are adequate to satisfy the British claims without information as to the amount of the entire foreign debt. || Report its exact figure. || 3. When the Venezuelan Government offer 30 per cent. of the customs of La Guayra and Puerto Cabello, do they mean the entire customs, or only 30 per cent. of the 40 per cent. of the total amount set apart by the Law of 1873 for debt and development of the country, which includes the 13 per cent. for the Diplomatic Debt, to which Mr. Bowen refers? || 4. Is it proposed that the 30 per cent. should be paid by monthly instalments to the blockading Powers only, or are the whole of the creditor Powers also to share the benefit? || We shall be quite ready to accept the security proposed by Mr. Bowen if he can supply statements showing that he offers guarantees adequate in amount, and we shall be prepared to urge the German and Italian Governments to accept it.

Nr. 12933. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Botschafter in Washington an den Minister des Ausw. Antwort auf das vorige.

Washington, January 25, 1903. (January 25.)

(Telegraphic.) || Venezuela. With reference to your telegram of yesterday, the following are Mr. Bowen's answers to your Lordship's

questions: — || 1. The value of the customs receipts of the two ports amounts to 18 000 000 bolivars yearly. || 2. The total debt of Venezuela amounts to about 239 000 000 bolivars. This includes internal debt to the amount of 94 000 000 and exterior debt to the amount of 145 000 000. || 3. Thirty per cent. of the entire customs receipts of the two ports is offered by the Venezuelan Government. || 4. Each of the creditor Powers is to receive a share of the 30 per cent.; 29 000 000 bolivars approximately is the amount of the total claims of the other Powers who are not engaged in the blockade. As to our claims of the first line, Mr. Bowen agrees that they shall be satisfied. I am to receive from him for this purpose a promissory note for 5500 *l.*, payable within thirty days. || As soon as he is informed that the necessary orders have been issued for the raising of the blockade, which he trusts that your Lordship will now consent to do within twenty-four hours, he will sign the promissory note, together with a Protocol in which the other condition which His Majesty's Government impose, all of which he has accepted, will be embodied.

Nr. 12934. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Washington. Die Blockademächte verlangen Befriedigung ihrer Ansprüche vor den anderen Mächten.

Foreign Office, January 26, 1903.

(Telegraphic.) || Although we shall certainly not interpose vexatious difficulties, and earnestly desire to arrive at an early settlement, we must have further explanation with regard to the Venezuelan proposal contained in your telegram of the 25th instant. On the following points we should be glad of further information: — || It is understood that 213 000 *l.* is the sum which 30 per cent. of the customs of the two ports would yield, and that this amount is intended to meet not only the claims of all the Powers for compensation, but the entire foreign debt of Venezuela, which amounts to 5 742 000 *l.* The claims of the three Powers engaged in the blockade will reach nearly 900 000 *l.*, and those of non-blockading Powers will reach some 1 148 514 *l.* in amount. || If only 213 000 *l.* a-year is available, it is obvious that many years will elapse before the whole of the above liabilities are extinguished. In these circumstances the interest of the creditors would be far from assured, considering the insecurity of affairs in Venezuela. || We consider that the claims of the Powers engaged in the blockade should not rank on the

same line with other claims for compensation or by bondholders, and that some special arrangement should be made with regard to the former. || A portion of the revenue of the two ports might possibly be set apart under an arrangement by which the extinction of British, German, and Italian claims, within, say, five years, would be provided for. It is presumed that this could be arranged without the other creditor Powers, whose interests we have undertaken to respect, being injuriously affected. || We shall be prepared at once to move the German and Italian Governments to join with us in raising the blockade, in the event of a satisfactory arrangement on these lines being made.

Nr. 12935. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Washington an den Minister des Ausw. Bowen lehnt diese Forderung ab.

Washington, January 27, 1903. (January 27.)

(Telegraphic.) || Venezuela. With reference to your Lordship's telegram of yesterday, it is not intended that the 30 per cent. of the receipts of the La Guayra and Puerto Cabello Customs shall meet the foreign debt, but they are to be exclusively devoted to the object of paying off the claims for compensation which all the Powers have put in. || It is impossible for Mr. Bowen, who stands committed to the other Powers, to give to the blockading Powers priority over them in respect of payment. He asserts that all the creditor nations would have been placed on an equal footing if the question of claims had been referred to the Hague Arbitration Tribunal.

Nr. 12936. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Berlin. Der deutsche Botschafter ist nicht mit Bowens Vorschlag einverstanden.

Foreign Office, January 27, 1903.

(Extract.) || The German Ambassador called upon me to-day, and we further discussed the position of the Venezuelan negotiations. I communicated to his Excellency the substance of my telegram to Sir M. Herbert of the 26th instant. It did not seem to the German Government that the assignment of 30 per cent. of the revenue of the two ports was a sufficient provision, if it was to be made use of, not only for the purpose of compensating the three blockading Powers, but also for that of satisfying the daims of the other Powers. || Count Metternich told me that he

thought it essential that in any case a special arrangement should be made for the settlement of the first rank claims. As to these, Germany would expect to be paid in cash, if our first rank claims were to be met by cash payment. If we accepted a security they would accept a securityal so, which might take the shape of a first call upon the assigned customs revenues.

Nr. 12937. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Washington. Die Blockademächte bestehen auf ihrer Vorzugsbehandlung.

Foreign Office, January 28, 1903

(Telegraphic.) || With reference to your telegrams of the 27th instant, His Majesty's Government cannot admit that pledges given by Mr. Bowen to the Powers which are not engaged in the blockade are binding on this country, and His Majesty's Government cannot accept a settlement which would force them to place their claims on the same footing with those of the non-blockading Powers. || It should not be difficult to make a separate arrangement with the blockading Powers by which annual instalments would be a guaranteed to them, secured on a part of the customs revenues of the two ports sufficient to extinguish their claims. Those claims amount to about 900 000 *l.*, and I would suggest that six years would be reasonable period for payment. The Venezuelan Government would not be prevented by this plan from making, with the other Powers, simultaneous arrangements by which their claims for compensation would be satisfied. || You should discuss the matter with your German and Italian colleagues.

Nr. 12938. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Derselbe an Denselben. Empfiehlt die Frage eventuell dem Haager Schiedsgericht vorzulegen.

Foreign Office, January 30, 1903.

(Telegraphic.) || With reference to my telegram of the 28th instant, and to your Excellency's telegram of the 29th instant, I have to recall that on the 27th ultimo the United States' Chargé d'Affaires told me that the President was glad to be able to inform the Governments of Great Britain, Germany, Italy, and Venezuela that they had all in principle agreed to the proposal to refer the questions pending to the Arbitration Tribunal at the Hague. Although unable himself to act as Arbitrator, the President was good enough to say that he would gladly hold him-

self at the disposition of the Powers concerned if he could be of any further service in arranging the preliminaries of such a reference. ‖ The President of Venezuela subsequently commissioned Mr. Bowen to proceed to Washington with a view of coming to an arrangement either for an immediate settlement of the claims, or for concerting preliminaries for their submission to the arbitration of the Tribunal at the Hague. ‖ There appears to be no doubt that the blockade could have been raised within a very few hours if Mr. Bowen had expressed a preference for the second of the above alternatives. The preliminary conditions on which Great Britain and Germany had insisted had been agreed to by President Castro, including those relative to the claims of the first line, *i. e.*, claims arising, for the most part, out of overt acts of spoliation and violence, of which, during recent years, British subjects and Germans have been the victims. ‖ His Majesty's Government were ready to accept in full settlement of the British share of these claims the sum of 5500 *l.* in cash, while Germany would accept a similar amount in cash, on condition of receiving priority as regards the sum of about 61 000 *l.*, the balance of the German claims. Consequently, in addition to the conditions already agreed upon, only an immediate cash payment of 11 000 *l.* and prior security for 61 000 *l.* was required to make possible an immediate appeal to the Tribunal at the Hague and the termination at the same time of the blockade. Mr. Bowen, however, preferred to make an attempt to bring about a direct settlement. His Majesty's Government have no desire to minimize the weight of his reasons for this, but the result has been that a state of affairs has unfortunately been prolonged which it was the earnest wish of His Majesty's Government to terminate. ‖ It seems that Mr. Bowen has not thought it possible come to any arrangement which would not place on precisely the same footing all the Powers who have claims for compensation from Venezuela. ‖ This is, in the opinion of His Majesty's Government, quite at variance with international practice and with principles of equity, and, except at the instance of some competent Tribunal of Arbitration, they could not assent to it. ‖ It must be remembered that neither the President of the United States in his communications with His Majesty's Government, nor any of the blockading Powers, nor, so far as I am aware, President Castro, have ever put forward a proposal of this nature. ‖ The preferential treatment for which the blockading Powers have asked is not, it must be further remembered, one by which either the resources at the disposal of the Venezuelan Government for the payment of the external debt would be exhausted, or by which the so-called „Diplomatic debt", which amounts

to only 5,2 per cent. of the total customs revenue of Venezuela, would be inferfered with. || The other Powers will, without doubt, under the arrangements proposed by the blockading Powers, be in a much more favourable position than they ever were before, and that, too, without incurring any of the trouble or expense involved in the naval operations which have been undertaken. || His Majesty's Government are of opinion, in these circumstances, that the method by which hostilities may be most expeditiously terminated would be by the reference of the question in dispute to the Tribunal at the Hague, subject to the conditions already mentioned, unless, indeed, the President of the United States, in the interests of a prompt settlement, were to consent to decide the only point which seems to be an obstacle to the Powers immediately interested arriving at a complete agreement. It is unnecessary to say that His Majesty's Government, in the event of the President consenting to adopt this course, would, with feelings of the utmost gratification, accept his good offices. In the event of the President being unable to do so, His Majesty's Government hope that he will give his assistance, in accordance with the offer quoted above, with a view to arrange the preliminaries for a reference to the Tribunal at the Hague, and thus enable the Powers to put an end to the blockade at once. || I have communicated to the German and Italian Ambassadors here the substance of this telegram, and you may inform your German and Italian colleagues of the purport of these instructions.

Nr. 12939. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Washington. Ansicht der englischen Regierung.

Foreign Office, February 1, 1903.

(Telegraphic.) || It is not the wish of His Majesty's Government to place any obstruction in the way of a reasonable arrangement between the Government of Venezuela and other Powers. At the same time, they consider it essential that priority should be given to the first rank of claims of the blockading Powers, and that provision should be made for the extinction, within a reasonable time, of the second rank of claims. || Subject to the fulfilment of these conditions, the terms which Venezuela may find herself able to offer to the other Powers are of no concern to His Majesty's Government, even if as advantageous as those obtained by the latter: but, except as the result of arbitration, they cannot assent to the doctrine that, in cases like the present, identic treatment should be

accorded to belligerents and non-belligerents. || An arrangement by which the claims of the blockading Powers should be extinguished in six or seven years would, we believe, leave it possible for a similar settlement to be made with the other Powers. Your Excellency should make a further attempt, in concert with your German and Italian colleagues, to arrive at a settlement such as I have indicated before acting on the instructions contained in my telegram of the 30th ultimo.

Nr. 12940. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Derselbe an Denselben. Schiedsgerichtsvorschlag für die streitigen Punkte.

Foreign Office, February 2, 1903.

(Telegraphic.) || His Majesty's Government are hoping shortly to learn from your Excellency whether a settlement on the lines indicated in my telegram of yesterday is possible. || If not, they are prepared to entertain proposals in conformity with the policy laid down in my telegram of the 30th January. || Procedure might be as follows: — || A Protocol would be drawn up for signature at Washington, embodying the conditions which Mr. Bowen has already accepted, including those for the settlement of the first-rank claims. || We should then reserve for adjudication by the President of the United States, or, failing that, by the Tribunal at the Hague, questions which arise out of the proposal for identic treatment of all the creditor Powers first made to us on the 25th ultimo.

Nr. 12941. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Derselbe an Denselben. Wird Roosevelt ein Schiedsgericht übernehmen?

Foreign Office, February 3, 1903.

(Telegraphic.) || In the event of its proving impossible to arrive at a settlement of the nature described in my telegram of the 1st instant, the procedure which we contemplate is that you and your colleagues should ascertain whether the President of the United States would consent to arbitrate. Your proposals would then be made to Mr. Bowen in accordance with the President's reply.

Nr. 12942. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Botschafter in Washington an den Minister des Ausw. Bowen lehnt die Vorschläge ab und schlägt das Haager Schiedsgericht vor.

Washington, February 3, 1903. (February 4.)

(Telegraphic.) || With reference to my telegram of yesterday, I have to state that late last night Mr. Bowen sent me a letter in which he stated that he could not accept our proposals, and suggested a reference to the Tribunal at the Hague of the question of priority. || I have asked Mr. Bowen if he had consulted the Representatives of the neutral Powers relative to our proposal of yesterday. In reply he stated that, as they held him to his promises of equal treatment, it would be useless to do so.

Nr. 12943. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Derselbe an Denselben. Bowen macht neue Vorschläge.

Washington, February 4, 1903,

(Telegraphic.) || To-day Mr. Bowen informed German Representative that he was willing to propose to the Powers that there should be no reference to the Hague but that they should receive the total of 30 per cent. of the customs for three months instead.

Nr. 12944. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Washington. Antwort auf das vorige.

Foreign Office, February 4, 1903.

(Telegraphic.) || With regard to the proposal contained in your telegram of to-day, I should be glad to learn, as early as possible, whether the sum which Mr. Bowen offers is meant to meet first-line claims or whether the intention is that separate provision should be made for them. || As you are aware, the conditions laid down by Great Britain and Germany were unreservedly accepted by President Castro in his note received by Mr. Hay on the 8th ultimo. One of those conditions was that, in the case of first-line claims, compensation would be paid at once by the Venezuelan Government.

Nr. 12945. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Derselbe an Denselben. Schiedsgericht der Präsidenten.

Foreign Office, February 4, 1903.

(Telegraphic.) || A settlement on the lines of my telegram of the 1st instant being now presumably unattainable, you should proceed, with rerard to the points reserved for arbitration, in accordance with my telegram of the 3rd. || A separate telegram is being send to you which contains the draft of a Protocol embodying the conditions which have already been accepted by Mr. Bowen.

Nr. 12946. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Botschafter in Washington an den Minister des Ausw. Neuer Vorschlag Bowens.

Washington, February 5, 1903. (February 5.)

(Telegraphic.) || With regard to the inquiry contained in your telegram of the 4th instant, I am informed by German Chargé d'Affaires that it is Mr. Bowen's intention that the first-rank claims should be met out of the total 30 per cent. receipts for the first three months.

Nr. 12947. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Washington. Entwurf einer Konvention.

Foreign Office, February 5, 1903.

(Telegraphic.) || My telegram of the 4th instant. || Following is text of Protocol in the form proposed by His Majesty's Government: —

Whereas certain differences have arisen between Great Britain and the United States of Venezuela in connection with the claims of British subjects against the Venezuelan Government, the Undersigned, his Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Michael Henry Herbert, K. C. M. G., C. B., His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United States of America, and Mr. Herbert W. Bowen, duly authorized thereto by the Government of Venezuela, have agreed as follows: —

Article I.

The Venezuelan Government declare that they recognize in principle the justice of the claims which have been preferred by His Majesty's Government on behalf of British subjects.

Article II.

The Venezuelan Government will satisfy at once, by payment in cash or its equivalent, the claims of British subjects, which amount to about 5500 *l.*, arising out of the seizure and plundering of British vessels and the outrages on their crews, and the maltreatment and false imprisonment of British subjects.

Article III.

The British and Venezuelan Governments agree that the other British claims, including claims by British subjects other than those dealt with in Article VI hereof, and including those preferred by the Railway Companies, shall, unless otherwise satisfied, be referred to a Mixed Commission constituted in the manner defined in Article IV of this Protocol, and which shall examine the claims and decide upon the amount to be awarded in satisfaction of each claim. || The Venezuelan Government admit their liability in cases where the claim is for injury to, or wrongful seizure of, property, and consequently the questions which the Mixed Commission will have to decide in such cases will only be — || (*a.*) Whether the injury took place, and whether the seizure was wrongful; and || (*b.*) If so, what amount of compensation is due. || In other cases the claims shall be referred to the Mixed Commission without reserve.

Article IV.

The Mixed Commission shall consist of one British and one Venezuelan Member. In each case where they come to an agreement, their decision shall be final. In cases of disagreement, the claims shall be referred to the decision of an Umpire nominated by the President of the United States of America.

Article V.

The Venezuelan Government being willing to provide a sum sufficient for the payment within a reasonable time of the claims specified in Article III and similar claims preferred by other Governments, undertake to assign *A. B.* by the day of , 190 , for this purpose, and to alienate to no other purpose, 30 per cent. in monthly payments of the customs revenues of La Guayra and Puerto Cabello. In the case of failure to carry out this undertaking, Belgian officials shall be placed in charge of the customs of the two ports, and shall administer them until the liabilities of the Venezuelan Government, in respect of the above-mentioned claims, shall have been discharped. || Any question as to the distribution of the customs revenues so to be assigned, and as to the

right of Great Britain, Germany, and Italy to a separate settlement of their claims, shall be determined, in default of arrangement, by the Tribunal at the Hague, by arbitration to which any other Power interested may make itself a Party.

Article VI.

The Venezuelan Government further undertake to enter into a fresh arrangement respecting the external debt of Venezuela, with a view to the satisfaction of the claims of the bondholders. This arrangement shall include a definition of the sources from which the necessary payments are to be provided.

Article VII.

The Brltish and Venezuelan Governments agree that, inasmuch as it may be contended that the establishment of a blockade of Venezuelan ports by the British naval forces has, *ipso facto*, created a state of war between Great Britain and Venezuela, and that any Treaty existing between the two countries has been thereby abrogated, it shall be recorded in an exchange of notes between the Undersigned that the Convention between Great Britain and Venezuela of the 29th October, 1834, which adopted and confirmed, *mutatis mutandis*, the Treaty of the 18th April, 1825, between Great Britain and the State of Colombia, shall be deemed to be renewed and confirmed, or provisonally renewed and confirmed, pending the conclusion of a new Treaty of Amity and Commerce.

Article VIII.

Immediately upon the signature of this Protocol arrangements will be made by His Majesty's Government, in concert with the Governments of Germany and Italy, to raise the blockade of the Venezuelan ports. || His Majesty's Government will be prepared to restore the vessels of the Venezuelan navy which have been seized, and further to release any other vessels captured under the Venezuelan flag, on receipt of a guarantee from the Venezuelan Government that they will hold His Majesty's Government indemnified in respect of any proceedings which might be taken against them by the owners of such ships or of goods on board them.

Article IX.

The Treaty of Amity and Commerce of the 29th October, 1834, having been confirmed in accordance with te terms of Article VII of this Protocol, His Majesty's Government will be happy to renew diplomatic relations with the Government of Venezuela.

Nr. 12948. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Washington. Antwort auf Nr. 12946.

Foreign Office, February 5, 1903.

(Telegraphic.) || With reference to your telegram of the 5th instant, you were authorized to negotiate with Mr. Bowen only on the basis that the first-rank claims of Great Britain and Germany, amounting to about 72 000 *l.*, should be excluded from arbitration and settled immediately. || President Castro has formally agreed to this arrangement. || We are now, as I understand, asked to accept, in satisfaction of the first-rank claims, about 53 000 *t.*, which sum would be receivable some months hence, while, as regards our other claims, we should have to take our chance with other Powers in a common settlement. || This offer is one which we consider it unadvisable to accept, and we should prefer to adhere to the procedure described in my telegram of the 2nd instant. You should explain this to your colleagues.

Nr. 12949. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Washington. Deutschland lehnt den Vorschlag in Nr. 12943 ab.

Foreign Office, February 6, 1903.

(Extract.) || Count Metternich being indisposed, Count Bernstorff called at this Office on behalf of his Excellency, and informed me that the German Government considered quite inadmissible the proposal put forward by Mr. Bowen, that the three Powers should accept the total of 30 per cent. of the Venezuelan customs for three months in satisfaction of their first-rank claims, and had instructed Baron Sternburg to join Sir M. Herbert in refusing it.

Nr. 12950. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Washington an den Minister des Ausw. Roosevelt empfiehlt das Haager Schiedsgericht.

Washington, February 7, 1903. (February 7.)

(Telegraphic.) || With reference to my telegram of yesterday, I have to report that this morning I received a note from the Secretary of State, asking whether, if it were finally decided to refer the question of preferential treatment to the Hague, the blockade would come to an end when the Protocol embodying the terms of reference was signed. || Sub-

sequently Mr. Hay called at this Embassy for a reply, and I informed him, having consulted my colleagues previously, that I assumed this would be the case. || Mr. Hay then dictated to me the following statement: — || „The President is extremely anxious to be of all possible service in the amicable settlement of pending questions, but he sees no reason to change his views hitherto expressed that a reference to the Hague of the question referred to would be in many respects a more judicious and satisfactory conclusion of the matter than for him to accept the invitation of the Powers, the honour and compliment of which he fully appreciates, and for which he is deeply grateful.“ || Please telegraph at once whether I am right in assuming that I should now submit draft Protocol immediately to Mr. Bowen.

Nr. 12951. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Botschafter in Washington. Antwort auf das vorige.

Foreign Office, February 7, 1903.

(Telegraphic.) The President's inability to adjudicate is regretted by His Majesty's Government. Their intentions with regard to the cessation of the blockade are correctly expressed by your language. || I should wish you now to submit to Mr. Bowen the draft Protocol.

Nr. 12952. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Botschafter in Washington an den Minister des Ausw. Unterzeichnung des Protokolles.

Washington, February 13, 1903. (February 14.)

(Telegraphic.) || The three Protocols were signed at half-past 11 to-night.

Der Krieg gegen den Mullah im Somalilande. 1901—1902.*)

Nr. 12953. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Generalkonsul Sadler an den Staatssekretär des Ausw. Swayne verfolgt den Mullah; er fragt, ob er italienisches Gebiet berühren darf.

Camp, Sheikh, June 20, 1901. (June 20.**)

(Telegraphic.) || I have just, within a few hours of the mail leaving, received a despatch from Swayne, dated south of Taguras, 13th June. || After reserve of the Mullah at Somala, he pursued the Mullah and his forces to border of Mijjertein country, part of following escaping towards Ilig, the Mullah fleeing, with all his property, to Mudug, enemy losing fifty killed; no casualties reported on our side; our advanced horse pursuing to within a day and a-half's march from Mudug. The horses were done up, and the pursuit was then abondoned. || All British officers well. || Swayne is proceeding to deal with the Aligheri, towards Bohotele, and prepare for further move against the Mullah, if this is approved. || Swayne reports it is proved Sultan Othman Mahmoud supplied the Mullah with arms, his emissaries escorted Mullah's live-stock to Mudug, and the Sultan has given him asylum there. || According to his present information, Swayne is of opinion that his present force is sufficient to deal with Mullah at Mudug; but, should Mijjertein prove stronger than he anticipates, he proposes to arrange for joint advance with Abyssinian force. || He asks for instructions whether he should move further against Mullah in Italian territory or leave matters alone. || If we now withdraw there will be no finality to the Mullah's movement, and he may at any time return to the Dolbahanta and dominate that province again. || The Mullah has suffered heavily in *morale*, and Sultan Yusuf Ali, at Obbia, is hostile to him. || All things considered, I am of opinion that we cannot leave the Mullah at Mudug, so close to our Protectorate. If he stays there,

*) Blaubuch Cd. 1006. — Vgl. Bd. 66.

**) Die eingeklammerten Daten geben das Empfangsdatum. Red.

I would suggest our arranging with the Abyssinians for a concerted move against him, making Mudug our final objective. || Direct communications have been received, dated the 12th June, from Hanbury-Tracy, at Gerlogubi. || Sir Charles Eliot has been informed of the Mullah's flight.

Nr. 12954. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Generalkonsul Sadler. Italienisches Gebiet darf nicht berührt werden. Schluß der Operationen.

Foreign Office, June 25, 1901.

(Telegraphic.) || After consideration of your telegram of the 20th instant, His Majesty's Government are unable to authorize pursuit of the Mullah into the Italian sphere, and they consider that the military operations should be terminated, subject to any action which may be indispensable in the Aligheri country. || You should convey to Colonel Swayne and his force the congratulations of His Majesty's Government. || It has been suggested that a mobile force should occupy Burao to watch and prevent the invasion of the Dolbahanta country by the Mullah, but the policy of His Majesty's Government not to retain troops in the interior of Somaliland, and, still less, to establish British Administration there, should be borne in mind. || Neither course would appear worth the cost. || His Majesty's Government await your views before finally deciding as to Burao. || You should consult with Swayne on this point.

Nr. 12955. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Generalkonsul Sadler an den Staatssekretär des Ausw. Neue Erfolge über den Mullah.

[Viâ Aden.]

July 26, 1901. (July 28.)

(Telegraphic.) || Colonel Swayne left Bohotele to proceed against force collected near Hassan Ughaz and to attack Mullah, who was reported to be in the vicinity, before I could convey to him the instructions contained in your telegram of the 25th June. || The Mullah's Mijjertein riflemen were in considerable force, and severe fighting took place on the 17th. Several of the Mullah's relatives were killed, and his cattle were captured and his huts burnt, while he himself was driven back with heavy loss into the Mijjertein country. || The pursuit was abandoned on reaching the Haud, as the enemy then scattered in every direction. || The expedition is now on its way back to Burao, whence no further

movement will be made. || I regret to report that Lieutenant Dickinson was severely wounded in the thigh, and that Captain Friedrichs was killed. He was shot whilst rescuing a wounded noncommissioned officer. || Levy had nine men killed and sixteen wounded; all the wounded are doing well.

Nr. 12956. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Derselbe an Denselben. Näherer Bericht über die Operationen.

Camp, Sheikh, July 22, 1901. (August 9.)

My Lord, || I have the honour to submit copy of a despatch from Captain M. Mc Neill, commanding the second column of the Somaliland expedition, reporting on the operations at Somala on the 2nd and 3rd June, and copy of two despatches from Lieutenant-Colonel E. J. E. Swayne reporting on the operations of the mnin column from the 1st to the 21st idem. || I had the honour of reporting the result of both sets of operations to your Lordship in my telegrams of the 13th and 20th ultimo. || I fully concur in what Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne writes in his despatch of the 21st ultimo as to the credit due to Captain Mc Neile for his able and successful defence of his position at Somala. He had been left in zariba there to guard a large number of live-stock captured from the Jama Siad and some prisoners. His force consisted of slightly under 500 men, of whom, including 20 Punjabi Sepoys, 370 were armed with rifles; the rest consisted of tribal 'spearmen and a few tribal horsemen. He also had one Maxim worked by a Somali detachment under the charge of Lieutenant Younghusband. || He was attacked on the afternoon of the 2nd June by a force of horse and foot men estimated to number 2000; the enemy advancing most bravely, and getting right up to the zariba, close to which several were shot. The same night a determined attempt was made by the enemy to rush the camel zariba. On the following morning he was attacked by a largely increased force, estimated at 5000 horse and foot and directed by the Mullah in person, when a determined attack was again made on the camel zariba held by a detachment under Lieutenant Lamprey. || All three attacks were ably and successfully repulsed with heavy loss to the enemy. Considering that the hostile force is reported to have had some seventy or eighty rifles, and that besides the main attack a dropping fire was kept up on the zariba till 10 P. M. on the 2nd, it is fortunate that our casualties in the two day's operations did not exceed ten of the levy killed and nine wounded. One of the wounded has since died. || Captain Mc Neill writes that he is much

pleased with the work done by all the British and native officers serving under him, and he particularly mentions Lieutenant Lamprey as deserving of credit for the manner in which he held the camel zariba against two attacks, and brings to notice the good work done by Jemadar Jama Siad, of the old Berbera police force, in keeping the enemy in check whilst the camels were being driven in prior to the first attack. || After leaving Captain McNeill's zariba on the 1st June Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne marched 15 miles east and interposed his main body between the Mullah and the Mahmud Gerad, in order to sever all connection between that tribe and the Mullah's force. On the Mullah's moving back to his headquarters after his reverses at Somala Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne fell upon his scattered detachments and effectually routed his force; a projected attack on our rear-guard being frustrated. The pursuit was kept up till I o'clock that night when the tracks were lost in dense jungle. Thence by a series of rapid marches the Mullah was pursued and driven outside the furthest limits of the Protectorate into the Mijjertein country, one of the advanced parties under Lieutenant O'Neill penetrating as far as latitude 8° 5′, longitude 48° 30′, and another under Ressaldar Musa Farih to within a day and a-half's journey of Mudug. || The horses were done up and the pursuit then ceased. The Mullah with some scattered remnants of his force was presumed to have fled to Mudug, others of his followers having gone in the direction of Ilig. During the pursuit some fifty of the enemy were killed and a number taken prisoners.

Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne then wrote to ask for instructions as to whether any further proceedings were to be taken against the Mullah in Italian territory, and pending the receipt of instructions proceeded to Bohotele to punish the Aligheri tribe of the Dolbahanta, into whom the Mullah had married and who have been his principal supporters throughout. || On the way a forced march was made and some 3009 camels and 620 head of cattle were captured from the Rer Hagar and Ararsama tribes, who were implicated in the series of attacks on McNeill's zariba. || It appears, from information subsequently conveyed to Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne by prisoners, that at one time, when separated from his column with a few men, he narrowly escaped capture, the enemy being hidden in a ravine 500 yards from where he was inspecting a water supply. | The greatest credit is due to Lieutenant-Colonel Swayno for the able disposition he made of his force, and the energy and rapidity with which the pursuit of the Mullah was pushed on, the men often marching 25 miles a-day, and on one occasion completing 41 miles with only the water they could carry with them in skins. The result of these opera-

tions has been that three determined attacks in force on one of our positions were repelled with severe loss; the forces of the Mullah were completely broken up, and he and the remnants of his force were driven in hot pursuit out of the Protectorate. That the Mullah was not caught appears to be owing to the fact that he did not stand, that he and his horsemen split up into numerous parties, and that but little time was left for pursuit in a most difficult country before nightfall. || I have had the pleasure of communicating to Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne the congratulations of His Majesty's Government conveyed to him and the force in your Lordship's telegram of the 25th June, but I have not yet heard that my communication has reached him. || The question of the further pursuit of the Mullah in Italian territory is decided by the orders received in the same telegram. || It will be observed from Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne's despatches that he is of opinion that it is proved that Sultan Othman Mahmood, the Sultan of the Mijjertein, is proved to have aided the Mullah in his escape, and that a caravan was seized conveying, amongst other things, three rifles and a quantity of ammunition, in rice bags, on its way from Bosasa to the Mullah. It is difficult to say how far this assistance was rendered by the Sultan and how far by the Mijjertein tribesmen on their own account. It is not unlikely that the Sultan sent the Mullah small consignments of arms and ammunition as well as supplies. On the other hand, it is as equally likely that they may have been supplied by individual tribesmen, attracted by the large gains to be made by dealing with the Mullah's camp. I have always held it improbable that the Sultan would join forces with the Mullah; the latter fled south and not towards the northern Mijjertein coast, where Sultan Othman Mahmood now is; and the latest reports from Aden are that the Sultan has refused to afford the Mullah any assistance whatever, and is putting him off with excuses. We know nothing yet for certain, but the probabilities are that he will not afford the Mullah active assistance. || The conditions I propose to make with the Dolbahanta tribes are that they refrain from any further dealings with the Mullah, agree to settle up for caravan and other loots, and cease from further disturbances. On their agreeing to these terms a general amnesty will be proclaimed for all concerned in the late disturbances, except the Mullah and a few of his principal advisers, and the tribes will be allowed to trade with our ports without restriction or the imposition of any punitive tax. The Dolbahanta tribes have been sufficiently punished in life and property. And I am against the imposition of fines which the deputations would doubtless agree to pay willingly enough, but which we could

not enforce without further complications. It is my principal object, once the expedition is brought to a close, no tto impose any conditions or issue any orders which will involve us in any interference in the Dolbahanta beyond what we can exercise from the coast by pressure, if necessary, on the trade of the tribes. It will, however, be necessary, for order in the Protectorate and in the interests of our Ishak tribes, to keep a portion of the levy temporarily to watch the Dolbahanta. In this connection I shall have the honour of addressing your Lordship in a separate despatch. || In my final report on the expedition I shall have the pleasure of bringing prominently to your Lordship's notice the services of Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne and Captain Mc Neill*).

J. Hayes Sadler.

Nr. 12957. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Generalkonsul Sadler an den Minister des Ausw. Neue Bewegungen Swaynes.

Camp, Sheikh, July 23, 1901. (August 9.)

My Lord, || I have the honour to submit copy of a despatch from Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne, dated the 8th July, from Bohotele, in which he reports that he was about to leave for the Eastern Dolbahanta to deal with a body of the Mullah's late supporters, who had collected in force at Beretable and were looting on their own account, and subsequently to again attack the Mullah should he remain in the locality he was reported to be in about 50 miles south of that place. || I presume Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne had strong reasons for making this move without awaiting the further instructions he had asked for. || Beretable is situated near Hassan Ughaz, in the extreme south-east limit of the Protectorate near the junction of latitude 8° and longitude 48°. || The instructions contained in your Lordship's telegram of the 25th June reached me on the 5th July. The same day a despatch was sent communicating these instructions to Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne. My despatch, however, did not reach Bohotele; the Sowars conveying it and other letters were met between Burao and Bohatele by Lieutenant Murray, who gave the despatch to six men of the Ararsama with instructions to follow up the column, which had already left Bohotele for Yahelle as rapidly as possible. || A further despatch, repeating your Lordship's instructions and desiring Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne to return immediately on its

*) Dem Bericht liegen drei Anlagen bei (Operationsberichte Swaynes und Mc Neill's), die hier fortgelassen sind. Ebenso bei den folgenden Berichten Sadlers. Red.

receipt, was sent after him as soon as I received his despatch, now inclosed, and this left Burao with a party of thirty of the Camel Corps on the 13th. Again, another despatch was sent by Captain Bruce, who proceeded from Burao two days later to join the column at Yahelle with the remainder of the Camel Corps and some Mounted Infantry under Captain Merewether. || One or other of these despatches must have reached Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne ere this; but so far I have not heard from him. I am daily expecting messengers. || The question of future requirements will be dealt with on Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne's return. It will probably be held by His Majesty's Government that Ainaba is too far an advanced post to hold, more especially as there is no question either of administering that part of the country or of retaining troops in the interior of Somaliland longer than is absolutely necessary. Such at present is my view.

J. Hayes Sadler.

Nr. 12958. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Derselbe an Denselben. Weiterer Bericht über die Operationen. Vorschlag, Burao zu besetzen.

Camp, Sheikh, July 26, 1901. (August 9.)

My Lord, || I have the honour to submit copy of a despatch from Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne, dated, Cour Gerad, the 18th instant, describing the operations reported in my telegram of this day's date. This despatch reached during the night of the 24th instant. || Another severe defeat has been inflicted on the Mullah and his followers by the native levies commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne. The Mullah's karia has been burnt, his cattle captured, several of his relatives killed, and he and his force have been again driven back into the Mijjertein country with heavy loss, and scattered in every direction. Pursuit was carried on till it was useless to proceed further. || It is, however, an ominous fact that the Mullah was able to concentrate again so soon after his series of reverses in the course of the preceding month; this fact will have to be taken into consideration in connection with the proposals I hope shortly to do myself the honour of submitting with regard to the proposed post at Burao. The expedition should be back at that place about the 28th instant, and it will not again move from there. || I shall probably receive a further report from Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne giving details of these operations, which are missing in his present despatch. This was written in pencil, and was evidently drafted after a

heavy day's work. || The strength of the force Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne attacked is not stated, but it is reported that the Mullah's Mijjertein riflemen were present in considerable numbers. This shows that he has succeeded in enlisting the aid of the Mijjertein tribes, hostile to Yusuf Ali, on the eastern borders of the Dolbahanta, and it is to the rifle fire of these men that our casualties are principally due. || I regret to have to report that Captain Friedrichs, R. E., was killed in these operations In him the service loses a valuable and experienced officer. He met his death in the performance of a gallant action. || Our other casualties were Lieutenant Dickinson, severe flesh wound in the middle of left thigh, and nine of the levy killed, and sixteen wounded. No other British officers were hurt, and the wounded are all reported to be doing well. || I do not quite understand Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne's allusions to my despatches to him. The first that reached him was evidently the despatch I wrote on the 5th July, informing him of the instructions contained in your Lordship's telegram of the 25th June. In the second I wrote that if he had not already left Bohotele to return to Burao he should now do so; and with regard to the Nogal Valley, I said that no operations should now be undertaken there or elsewhere. I can, however, quite understand that when Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne came up with the Mullah's rear-guard at Cour Girad he felt himself bound to go on. He could not have done otherwise || It will be observed that Mahmud Girad, the powerful tribe occupying the northern Dolbahanta, joined the expedition, but would not face the Mullah's rifles. This is typical of the situation throughout; the tribes are powerless against the Mullah's rifles. || The Mullah has now twice been attacked and routed with heavy loss. In each case he has made good his escape. This only emphasizes the extreme difficulty of catching an individual who has a large area to fall back on in a very difficult country interspersed with dense thorn bush; were he to stand it would be different; but his plan is to keep well out of the fighting line, and bolt as soon as he sees that all chance of success is up. || I would invite your Lordship's attention to the fact that, in the course of nine days, this column, self-contained in every way, and operating at a distance from its most advanced base, had made a march of considerably over 100 miles, fought a successful action, and pursued the enemy to a distance in the Haud.

J. Hayes Sadler.

Nr. 12959. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Generalkonsul Sadler an den Minister des Ausw. Bericht Swaynes über die Lage.

Camp, Sheikh, August 1, 1901. (August 19.)

(Extract.) || I have the honour to submit proposals for the temporary occupation of Burao, and the location there of a movable force to watch the Dolbahanta, and prevent invasion by the Mullah Muhammad-bin-Abdullah. || Annexed are two despatches from Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne. That written on the 26th ultimo is supplementary to his despatch of the 18th idem reporting on the operations at Beretable. In that of the 31st ultimo he records his views on the situation in the eastern province and on its border as left after those operations, and notes the strength of the force he considers it necessary now to retain at Burao. The expedition returned to Burao on the 28th July, and Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne came on at once here, and is now in my camp. I have had several conversations with him on the situation, and I am quite in accord with him as to the measures we should now take in connection with the location of a force at Burao and the strength at which it should, for the present, be maintained. These proposals are framed with the object of insuring a sufficient safeguard without incurring more expenditure than is absolutely necessary, in view of a possible state of affairs which will be fraught with considerable danger to the Ishak tribes and the nearer portion of the Protectorate. We cannot yet predict what the results of the series of reverses the Mullah has sustained will be, but he has the whole of the Dolbahanta again open to him, and we must be prepared to repel any attack from that quarter, and protect our Ishak tribes from further molestation by the Mullah's raids. || It is interesting to note that after twice traversing the whole breadth of the Dolbahanta, and after our expedition has thrice encountered the Mullah's forces and routed them, the facts recorded by Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne in the two inclosures to this despatch fully bear out the opinions I have expressed to your Lordship from time to time as to the character of this movement, the absence of any hostility to the Administration on the part of the Dolbahanta *per se*, the defenceless position of the tribes in the face of the Mullah's riflemen, and the great danger, and still further danger to be apprehended, from the influx of arms from without among a savage population hostile to civilization. || After the Mullah's defeat and rout in June I was of opinion that 250 infantry and 100 Camel Corps would be a sufficient force to maintain at Burao with a militia reserve. The fact that the Mullah was able to concentrate so

soon after his defeat, and that he was only routed again after some severe fighting in which we lost one British officer killed and one wounded, besides nine of levy killed and sixteen wounded, has caused me to modify my views. Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne, too, is no longer of opinion, in the face of a possible advance of the Mullah, that we control and administer the Dolbahanta with the small force stationed ad Ainaba, suggested in his despatch of the 8th July. || The Dolbahanta have no wish to be inimical to us, but, if the Mullah returns and again dominates their country, they will be forced to be so. They have all submitted to us. Now they will naturally ask, „If the Mullah attacks us, will you defend us?“ This will be a somewhat awkward question. It is evident we could, under no circumstances, undertake to send an expedition to the far end of the Dolbahanta every time the Mullah threatened the border. The Dolbahanta have now come in to us because they found us in strength in their country. They are a turbulent race, always fighting and raiding among themselves, and until this expedition entered their country we have interfered but little with them, and never attempted to administer the country. Writing last year in June, I pointed out that it would not be worth the expense to do so. Nor are we under the same obligations to defend them from the Mullah they themselves created, supported, and followed, as we are to protect the Ishak tribes who, at first attracted partly by the Mullah's movement, eventually resisted it, and, finally, actively joined us to suppress it, and secure them from further molestation by the Mullah, now imbued with fanatical hatred towards them. || I take it from the instructions received in your Lordship's telegram of the 25th June that His Majesty's Government would not be prepared to incur the increased expenditure which would be entailed by holding the Dolbahanta, where a small force would be constantly exposed to risk. We must, therefore, leave the Dolbahanta alone, and confine our attention to watching that country and safeguarding against attack on our ports and the nearer portions of the Protectorate which may be threatened by any further move on the Mullah's part. || By retaining 500 infantry and 100 Camel Corps at Burao, a reserve company at Berbera, and providing for the rest of the infantry being formed into a militia, we shall have a movable force available, which can be brought up to the strength of the present levy in case of emergency at very short notice. The permanent transport and 100 ponies will be retained and grazed near Burao. The 150 mounted infantry will be disbanded. There was always difficulty in getting the tribes to supply mounted men, and it is not now thought worth while to proceed further

with the scheme for forming a militia of this branch. Our 100 ponies will be available to mount the same number of infantry in support of the Camel Corps. || It must be remembered that the men of the levy merely enlisted for the operations which have now terminated. They are anxious to go, at least for a time, to their homes. Of the four companies retained at Burao it will be necessary to let half the men go on a month's leave, the others following on their return, on the understanding that they rejoin immediately if required to do so. In the meanwhile, I propose to retain the fifty Punjabi Sepoys from India until we can arrange to obtain the party of Punjabi Mahommedans for which provision has already been made in the estimates. The Punjabis now here are on the active lists of their regiments, and have only been seconded for six months. || For the present we shall require to retain two Captains and seven Lieutenants. The remaining British officers can be allowed to return to their regiments. || The question of the issue of arms to our tribes is one I have always been loth to approach, but I concur with Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne that some measure of the kind has become necessary as regards the eastern Habr Yunis, and it will be remembered that the issue of a limited number of old Sniders to the western tribes was forced upon me last year as the only possible means of affording the tribes protection in their grazing grounds. No case of the misuse of these arms has occurred once those given to the Aida Galla were taken back. Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne is right that these raids are so sudden that they would be over before any assistance could be afforded from Burao, or elsewhere; and it is desirable, for several reasons, that the Camel Corps should be retained as a compact corps, and not split up into numberless small parties scattered all over the distant grazing grounds out of ready touch with Burao. The suggestion to arm portion of the militia with Sniders and allow them to remain with the karias till required for an emergency or for training is probably the best solution of the difficulty. The men are trained to arms, and we shall have a certain amount of control over them. In any case of misuse of these arms all with the particular tribe or section would be recalled, and there would be a powerful incentive not to misuse them. They would not be allowed to be taken across our border, so complications with the tribes under Abyssinia would be avoided. || I propose now to recall some 50 old Sniders with the western tribes, who are now under no immediate apprehension from raids by the Mullah's riflemen, and issue them to the Habr Yunis sections nearest to the Dolbahanta frontier. || I would ask for 300 more Sniders, with 100 rounds of am-

munition per rifle. We shall be guided by circumstances as to how far it may be necessary to issue these arms, but I think we ought to have them available in the Protectorate; and if there are any in store they are not likely to be required elsewhere, being now an antiquated weapon. || A couple of gom-goms, or better still, two 7-pr. guns, of the pattern lately discarded by the mountain batteries, would be most useful; and with a subaltern of the Royal Artillery to train our men, we should soon get effective Somali gun detachments. || Acting on the authority conveyed in your Lordship's telegram of the 9th July last, I am now reducing the levy to the strength mentioned in this despatch, which Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne and I both consider is what is required to meet the military requirements. After the receipt of orders on this despatch any modifications will be made which your Lordship may desire. || The initial cost involved by these proposals will be small, as we have a supply of arms, ammunition, and equipment, and supplies, left over from the expedition. || I would solicit the favour of a telegram when orders are passed regarding the post at Burao, and the strength of the force to be temporarily retained there.

Nr. 12960. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Generalkonsul Sadler. Er lehnt die dauernde Besetzung Sadlers ab.

Foreign Office, September 4, 1901.

(Telegraphic.) || After careful consideration of your despatsch of 1st August, His Majesty's Government feel unable to sanction Burao being permanently occupied, or a new corps being formed to hold either that place or other posts in the interior. You may retain a force under arms not exceeding the number proposed in your despatch as a provisional measure, and until effects of recent operations can be better estimated. || Pending further orders, however, you should make no purchases of camels, guns, or equipment. || His Majesty's Government sanction proposed distribution of rifles to friendly tribesmen.

Nr. 12961. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Generalkonsul Sadler an den Minister des Ausw. Aufenthalt des Mullah.

Aden, October 25, 1901. (October 25.)

(Telegraphic.) || Mullah has returned to Dolbahanta and is reported at Helimadu. Situation is generally unsettled.

Nr. 12962. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Derselbe an Denselben. Schlußbericht über die Operationen.

Bailey's Hotel, London, November 18, 1901. (November 19.)

My Lord, ‖ I have the honour to submit Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne's final Report on the operations recently undertaken under his command against the Mullah, Muhammad-bin-Abdullah, in Somaliland. ‖ The rise of the fanatical movement headed by this Mullah and the reasons why it became necessary to put it down by armed force are detailed in despatches dating from April 1899, which have since been published in Parliamentary papers — „Africa No. 5 (1901)". Reports have also been submitted from time to time on the progress made in the raising and equipment of the native levy, and of the operations conducted by Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne in the field. ‖ The original plan of campaign was that the Abyssinian force, which was to co-operate with ours, should drive the Mullah from his position in the western Ogaden, towards Bohotele, where our force would deal with him. The Abyssinian expedition, however, moved into the Ogaden before our preparations could be completed; it effected its purpose, but did not ever come into touch with our force. ‖ I would avail myself of this opportunity to acknowledge the valuable assistance rendered to the Protectorate in the suppression of the Mullah's movement by Lieutenant-Colonel Harrington, His Britannic Majesty's Agent and Consul-General at Addis Abbaba, whose conduct of our relations with the Emperor Menelek alone rendered possible the undertaking of concerted action with Abyssinia against the Mullah. ‖ Active operations commenced on the 22nd May last, when an advance was made from our advanced base at Burao. The Mullah was located in the central Dolbahanta with a force of some 5000 men, mounted and foot, with about 500 rifles. He could also count on support from large numbers of tribal spearmen, whose attitude it was known would depend on the result of the first conflict with the enemy. Our force consisted of 1500 men of the levy, 50 Punjabi Mahommedan Sepoys from India, and a number of spearmen employed on transport work. Operations ceased with the return of the expedition to Burao on the 29th and 30th July. ‖ The operations conducted during this period under the able command of Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne were completely succesful. The enemy were defeated on three occasions with heavy loss, and the Mullah and the remnants of his force were twice driven out of the Protectorate in hot pursuit, finally to seek a refuge in the Mijjertein country beyond our border, thoroughly disorganized and dispirited; and tribes who had

actively supported the Mullah from the first were pursued and punished. || As a result of these operations undertaken over a large area in a difficult and for the most part waterless country, with no means of support in case of a reserve, the tribes both in the Dolbahanta and the Ogaden country south of our border sent in emissaries to renounce the Mullah and sue for pardon. This was granted to them subject to good behaviour and on the understanding that they held aloof from any further dealings with the Mullah, who being still at large was capable of causing further trouble hereafter. Our authority was thus restored over a large portion of the Protectorate, where for the last two and a-half years the Mullah's movement had remained unchecked for want of means to cope with it, and at the same time friendly relations were renewed with the tribes who trade with our Protectorate and inhabit the country to the south of our border. || It will be within your Lordship's recollection that in the instructions issued to Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne I desired that one portion of any live-stock captured should be applied to compensate our tribes for the losses they had suffered at the Mullah's hands, one portion be given the Somalis of the levy as prize-money, and one portion be set-off against the cost of the expedition. The distribution was mainly made on these lines, but I have not yet received the final Report of distribution. One hundred animals were made over for the benefit of the Berbera Poor-house, which for months had supported women and children rendered destitute by the Mullah's raids; none were given to the hospital. || I would wish to bring prominently to your Lordship's favourable consideration for promotion and reward the eminent services rendered by Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne in raising and organizing the levy, and in planning and conducting his operations to a successful issue. He has shown powers of organization and generalship to a marked degree, and it would be difficult to speak too highly of the able manner in which the work intructed to him was planned and carried out. I fully indorse the favourable mention Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne has made of the services of the officers acting under his orders, and I trust your Lordship may be pleased to consider the recommendations he has recorded. || Major Beynon, D.S.O., ably commanded the mounted branch, and was assisted by Captains Mereweather and Bruce, in command of the mounted infantry and cavalry, respectively. The mounted branch did good service in covering the advance of the infantry, in surprising by forced marches and capturing the enemy's live-stock and in completing the rout of the Mullah and his followers by sharp pursuit beyond the border. || Captain Phillips is commended as a thoroughly reliable and capable officer. I had

ample demonstration at Burao of the efficiency to which he had quickly brought his corps by his powers of organization. I trust that the ability he has shown during this expedition may be considered in connection with the services he has already rendered in other parts of Africa. || The defence of his position at Somala by Captain McNeill was a brilliant affair. Three successive attacks in force were repulsed, and finally the enemy, who outnumbered him by more than twelve to one, were beaten off with heavy loss. His services on this occasion amply deserve recognition. Lieutenant Lamprey's name is brought forward by Captain McNeill for good service performed in the defence of the camel zariba, which formed portion of the position hele at Somala. || Major the Honourable A. Hanbury-Tracy, assisted by Captain Cobbold, held a position with the Abyssinian force which called for the exercise of much tact and diplomacy, and in which he was able to render valuable assistance to the Abyssinian Commander, thus winning the warm appreciation of the Emperor Menelek. His reports testify to the difficulties he had to encounter, and I would recommend to your Lordship's favourable notice the services he has rendered whilst attached to the Abyssinian expedition. || It was with deep regret that I had to report the loss of two valuable and experienced officers, who devoted themselves to their work with the levy, and who would have risen to distinction had they lived — Lieutenant de Sausmarez, K.R.R., accidentally shot at Burao, and Captain Friedrichs, R.E., killed in action at Furdiddin. || Mr. Gerolimato, British Vice-Consul at Harrar, rendered useful assistance in keeping me informed of the progress of affairs at Harrar, and of the movements, so far as they could be ascertained, of the Abyssinian force operating in the Ogaden. I would place on record the fact that, in deference to what he knew would be my wish, Mr. Gerolimato postponed an application he had intended to make for leave of absence in order to remain at his post till the conclusion of the expedition. || I gladly indorse Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne's mention of the aid given him by Lieutenant Cordeaux in his capacity of His Britannic Majesty's Vice-Consul at Berbera. The troubles caused by the Mullah's movement threw a large amount of extra work on Lieutenant Cordeaux which was readily and cheerfully performed; and throughout he gave me the most loyal assistance in our dealings, at times anxious, with the tribes. || I trust that Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne's request that a medal and clasp be given to all ranks serving with the expedition may meet with your Lordship's favourable consideration. Many of our Somalis served with the Italians, and show with pride the medals they received for the actions in which they were engaged. On political

grounds alone the issue of a medal for the operations lately concluded would be expedient. || I would also recommend that some native title be created to reward native officers and officials who perform meritorious service in our African Protectorates, similar to the titles conferred by the Indian Government on deserving Mahommedan officials. || Ressaldar Musa Farih is a native officer eminently deserving of such a title, and I should wish to see one conferred on him, both on account of the good services he has performed for years past and the influential position he holds amongst his countrymen in Somaliland. J. Hayes Sadler.

Nr. 12963. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Generalkonsul Cordeaux an den Minister des Ausw. Der Mullah ist in Lasodar.

Berbera, December 15, 1901. (December 15.)

(Telegraphic.) || The tribes in front of Burao are much alarmed as the Mullah is reported to be in force at Lasodar with advance posts of riflemen at Josawaina, Kirrit, Bohotele. I am taking all possible measures to reassure them. In view of possible developments the situation is less satisfactory though there is no immediate cause for anxiety.

Nr. 12964. **GROSSBRITANNIEN.** — Generalkonsul Cordeaux an den Minister des Ausw. Der Mullah droht mit einem Angriff auf Burao.

Berbera, December 21, 1901. (December 21.)

(Telegraphic.) || I have just received news from Burao to following effect: — || The Mullah intends to make a simultaneous attack on the Ishak frontier, north and south of Burao, and has advanced suddenly to Oodwaina. He has a large following composed principally of mounted riflemen. The general situation is disquieting and will become serious unless we can move out and take the offensive, which is considered absolutely necessary. To do so is at present impossible owing to insufficient number of men and offfcers. May I expect additional officers? I am raising the levy to its former strength, and should the Mullah remain where he is, I propose to move out with all the cavalry to attack him. Burao is considered strong enough to resist an attack, and I have issued rifles to the frontier tribes, and am taking all possible measures to protect the frontier wherever it may be threatened.

Nr. 12965. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Derselbe an Denselben. Dasselbe.

Berbera, December 27, 1901. (December 27.)

(Telegraphic.) || The Mullah has now retired to Eil Dab, but is threatening to resume the aggressive. He is reported to have with him a force of 12 000 men, most of whom are mounted, with about 1000 rifles. The safety of Burao gives no cause for anxiety; its garrison has been raised to 650 men with one month's supplies. Further supplies for 1000 men for one month are now in course of transit. || His Majesty's cruiser „Cossack" arrived yesterday, and I am taking precautions against a possible, though improbable, descent on Berbera.

Nr. 12966. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Generalkonsul Cordeaux. Verstärkungen kommen.

Foreign Office, December 31, 1901.

(Telegraphic.) || With reference to my telegram of the 23rd December, 500 Martini carbines will be sent for the friendlies as soon as possible. Until Swayne arrives you should take no action beyond measures indispensable for the protection of friendly Ishak tribes.

Nr. 12967. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Generalkonsul Cordeaux an den Minister des Ausw. Er hat Verstärkungen herangezogen.

Berbera, January 3, 1902. (January 3.)

(Telegraphic.) || The situation is improving. The Mullah is back again at Lasodar, where he is distributing loot and resting his horses preparatory to a raid which he threatens to carry out on the Habr Yunis. I do not, however, anticipate further aggressions at present, in the face of our preparations to take the offensive. || I have requisitioned the services of 100 men of the Native Infantry from Aden under a British officer, to temporarily garrison Berbera and relieve the Somali Levy Company, which is required at Burao. The levies have been raised to 900 men, and I can complete the original strength immediately additional British officers arrive.

Nr. 12968. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Derselbe an Denselben. Ankunft der Verstärkungen.

Berbera, February 15, 1902. (February 16.)

(Telegraphic.) || The carbines and guns arrived last week. One of latter and all of former are up at the front. || I received the following news last night from Swayne at Burao: — || „Friendly Ishak tribes have been raided by Mullah at Amudleh, 20 miles south-west of Burao. Losses of friendlies believed to be heavy, though details of the extent of the raid have not yet been received.“ || I am summoning all the friendly tribes to assemble at Burao to assist, while Swayne is arranging for a counter-raid sufficiently strong to give no anxiety as to result.

Nr. 12969. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Derselbe an Denselben. Die militärische Lage.

[Viâ Aden.]

February 21, 1902. (February 22.)

(Telegraphic.) || With reference to my preceding telegram, both Manning and Swayne consider that, in order to check the spread of fanaticism, a counter-stroke is now necessary. Latter informs me that situation may become dangerous, as great loss of life and property attended the Mullah's raid on the tribes round Burao.

Nr. 12970. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — General Manning an den Minister des Ausw. Militärische Bedürfnisse.

Aden, February 21, 1902. (February 24.)

(Telegraphic.) || Swayne urgently requires 500 Martini-Enfield carbines or rifles (carbines preferred), 200 rounds per rifle, two 12-inch heliographs complete; also asks for Major Phillips to form a corps, also six more officers from King's African Rifles. I suggest three from 2nd battalion, two from 4th batalion, one from 5th batalion be temporarily attached to force. Six officers already attached proved most useful. Consider, therefore, in view of situation, only six officers accustomed to native African troops should be sent. || 6th battalion requires artillery officer, replace Younghusband, and one more subaltern, suggest Stigand. Eight Indian signallers required; recommend five from 5th battalion and three from Indian contingent of British Central Africa be called for. || Swayne considers delay of dispatch of requirements possibly may be dangerous.

Nr. 12971. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Der Minister des Ausw. an den Generalkonsul Cordeaux. Verspricht das Verlangte zu schicken.

Foreign Office, February 24, 1902.

(Telegraphic.) || Your telegram of the 21st instant and Manning's of same date. || Have ordered to Berbera one subaltern, five signallers, 5th battalion; one Captain, two subalterns, reserve battalion; three signallers Indian contingent British Central Africa. || Will telegraph as to Manning's other requirements as soon as possible.*)

Nr. 12972. GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Major Hanbury-Tracy an den Minister des Ausw. Bericht über den Feldzug der Abessinier gegen den Mullah. (Mit Anlagen.)

19, Half Moon Street, November 6, 1901. (November 29.)

(Extract.) || I have the honour to forward herewith a résumé of the work accomplished in connection with my employment with the forces of the Ras Makonnen recently operating against the Mad Mullah in the Ogaden, to accompany which force and to assist it, if possible, in cooperation with the Somali levy under Colonel Swayne, your Lordship appointed me in February last. || With this object I left England on the 8th March, accompanied by Captain R. P. Cobbold, who had been appointed to accompany me in an unpaid capacity. (Inclosure No. 2.) || The instructions which I received before leaving London were as shown in Inclosure No. 1. || I was directed to convey a present from His Majesty to the Emperor Menelek, which I placed in the hands of His Britannic Majesty's Consul in Harrar (Mr. J. Gerolimato), and this was subsequently presented by Colonel Harrington. || Leaving London on the 8th March, I proceeded to Aden by P. and O. steamer, arriving at the latter place on the 17th March. || On the 18th March I crossed to Berbera, where I spent some days with Colonel Sadler making preliminary arrangements as to the formation of my caravan, Colonel Sadler being of opinion that Berbera would be a better base to start from than Zeyla, provisions for the men at the latter being a difficulty. Acting on his advice I arranged to hire camels as far as Jig Jigga. || As it was impossible to foretell the duration of the operations, I made provision for a possible absence of

*) An demselben Tage gibt der Minister Befehl aus Mombasa und aus Indien die verlangten Personen zu schicken. Red.

nine months for myself and a two months' provision of rations for my caravan, it being arranged that a further supply of dates and „ghi“ should be forwarded later on from Berbera to Jig Jigga, which place I intended to use as my advanced base. || As it was known that the country in which the Abyssinians were likely to operate contained but little water, a considerable number of camels were necessary to carry water-tanks. || My party consisted of one Headman, forty-six camels, twenty-three attendants, and an escort of twelve Somalis, besides my personal servants. The camels and also the servants engaged by Captain Cobbold are included in these numbers, and were no charge to Government. || Having completed the formation of the expedition, I returned to Aden to pick up my baggage, reaching Berbera again on the 27th. || The 28th was spent in making preparations for my start and receiving instructions from Colonel Sadler, the Copy of which is annexed. (Inclosure No. 3.) || On the 29th I left Berbera, and directing Captain Cobbold to proceed with the caravan by the main road to Jig Jigga, I branched off to Adadleh where Colonel Swayne's Somali levy was situated at that time. I obtained from that officer a general idea of his proposed operations, for the information of Ras Makonnen and my own guidance, and then rejoined the caravan. || Jig Jigga was reached on the 8th April. Here I found the Fittaurari Banagusi, who is in charge of the district. Here I discharged the camels which had been hired to this point only, and leaving my baggage behind proceeded to Harrar, where the Acting Governor, in Ras Makonnen's absence, received me extremely well. || Mr. Gerolimato met me on the road before entering the town, and informed me that Ras Makonnen was absent at Colubbi, a country seat of his some 30 miles on the Addis Abbaba road, where he intended to spend Easter. || He returned a few days later and had an interview with me at once, when I found him averse to the idea of allowing Captain Cobbold and myself to join the army, under which the Fittaurari Gabri had now been in the field since the beginning of the year. He complained of the delay in the start of the British force, which, he said, had been promised should be in readiness to take the field simultaneously with the Abyssinians, whom, he alleged, were now worn out by fatigue and the privations they had undergone, and were not in a state to assist in further operations. || After several interviews I thought it best to ask Colonel Harrington to obtain an order from King Menelek allowing us to proceed, and this he kindly did, and the Ras was ordered to send a fresh force to replace the army of Gabri, and to allow us to proceed with all dispatch. || A fresh body of troops was now collected to the

number of 10 000 men, who were ordered to concentrate at Dagaha Mado, a place on the Ogaden border some distance south of Harrar, the command being given to the Kanyazmach Abanabro, who had served with Makonnen at the battle of Adowa, where he had distinguished himself. || The hospital assistant who had been ordered to join me from India not being forthcoming, and as I considered it imperative in the interest of the Abyssinians as well as in my own that a medical man should accompany the force, I asked Dr. Martin, who happened to have recently arrived from Addis Abbaba, to join the expedition. I considered that, being en Abyssinian by birth, his presence would be grateful to the force, and the Ras viewed the idea favourably. || Dr. Martin agreed to my proposal and joined me at Jig Jigga on the 9th May.

Ras Makonnen detailed Basha Ballina and his following as our escort, and he joined us at Jig Jigga and remained with me till my return to Harrar, serving me excellently well. || Whilst completing preparations for our departure from Jig Jigga to join the army we heard again that the Ras was endeavouring to delay the departure of the troops, and was anxious that we should not proceed until arrangements were further advanced. This, however, I disregarded. || I arranged by mounted runners a system of communication with Colonel Swayne's column before my departure from Jig Jigga on the 11th May, leaving all surplus baggage at this point. || I proceeded south towards Dagaha Mado, receiving on my way a letter from Colonel Swayne, who was anxious that a force might be detached to punish the Rer Ali, which tribe had been causing him some annoyance. || The Abyssinian army joined us at Dagaha Mado on the 25th May. It consisted of some 10 000 men, but it was impossible to obtain a correct estimate of their numbers, as the Kanyazmach himself had but a hazy notion of the number of men with him. || At Sassamini a letter was received from Colonel Swayne asking the Abyssinians to co-operate in punishing the Allegeri, but as information had reached us that the Mullah was retreating south from the Dolbahanta before the Britih column, I thought it better to lose no time in endeavouring to cut off his retreat by occupying the country around and to the east of Gerlogubi with all possible speed. The Kanyazmach concurred, promising to punish the Allegeri on the return journeys. || I already foresaw that difficulties must arise in feeding this large force, whose numbers had been swollen by the arrival of large numbers of volunteers aggregating some thousands. || A question on this point soon arose, for it transpired that whereas the army had brought with them a month's rations, the newly-arrived volunteers were quite unprovided for and had to be fed.

A discussion then ensued as to the advisability of proceeding southwards to the Webbe in search of grain or of moving east on Gerlogubi; and as the Mullah was reported in the vicinity the latter course was decided on. || On arrival at Gerlogubi on the 12th June, the Mullah was reported in the thick bush some 50 miles east. It was, however, impossible to obtain reliable information. The country was denuded of any Ogaden who might have afforded information, these having fled in terror at the approach of the Abyssinians, who had no idea of any system of obtaining intelligence, and were also afraid to move about except in large bodies. || I urged the Kanyazmach to break up his huge force into three smaller columns to increase their mobility and render it easier to feed them, but he would not do so. || Accordingly, the whole army marched eastwards some 50 miles into the country of the Rer Ibrahim, where it was said the Mullah had sought shelter. The report as to the latter's whereabouts proved incorrect, but the Ibrahim who had been supporting him were severely punished, the Abyssinians pursuing them for two days in scattered parties and driving them into the hands of Colonel Swayne's advanced guard, who further completed their discomforture and captured some 2000 camels. The Abyssinians killed some 200 of the tribe, and some hidden ammunition was unearthed and brought in. || The Mullah's brother and some of his family being reported at Galadi, the position of which is shown on the map, and a large concentration of tribesmen being reported there with large quantities of sheep, I advised the Kanyazmach to send his main body and baggage to Gerlogubi and detach a strong column to Galadi and a sesond one to Bur, some 30 miles south of Wardair, where the Mekahil tribes had assembled, having been driven from the wells at Walwal and Wardair. He agreed to this plan which would, if it had been carried out at that time, have resulted in a blow being struck at the Makahil, one of the sub-sections of whom is the Bagari, the tribe of the Mullah — and would also have provided plenty of food for the troops — but afterwards changing his mind, led the army, already half starving, by a ciruitous route back to Gerlogubi. || We had warned the Kanyazmach that it was essential for the men each to carry a skin of water, and had told him of the distances which we knew through some of our own men — whom we sent with him. No preparations for carrying water were made; the advice of our men was disregarded, and he has no one to thank for this misfortune but himself. He afterwards informed us that it was the will of God and must be accepted a such. || The Kanyazmach now gave orders for parties to scatter themselves all over the country, and the friendly tribes in the Fafan valley were looted,

large quantities of cattle and sheep where forthcoming, and the crisis was, for the moment, averted. || The long course of camel meat diet, to which the Abyssinians are unaccustomed, now showed its effect, the men being in a weakened, disheartened, and sullen condition. Their horses and mules, owing to the scarcity of grass in this inhospitable country, had been greatly reduced in condition, and it was decided to return to the valley of the Fafan, where grass was abundant, and to there decide on the best steps to take. || Before leaving Gerlogubi, a letter was received from the Officer Commanding at Burao, in which was mentioned the report of the Mullah's capture, and as this was corroborated by prisoners and from other sources, we placed some reliance in it.

The Fafan was reached in the first week in July. The Kanyazmach now proposed to proceed south to the Webbe, stating that he was sure ample grain could be obtained there, and that when this was collected, he proposed to take the army back to Harrar, since they were unfit for further service, and internal dissensions with his Chiefs had arisen. I did not myself believe it likely that any grain would be obtain-able in the Webbe. The country had been devastated by Gabri only a short time previously, and it was afterwards conclusively proved that I was correct in my supposition. It seemed to me that the Kanyazmach's plans courted disaster, for the men were worn out and in a bad state generally, and if no grain was found, it meant that none of them would return. || I, therefore, at a Council of Chiefs which was held, did my best to dissuade the Kanyazmach from this idea, and the Chiefs gave me a pretty general support. The spirit of the soldiery was unanimously against going further. || The Kanyazmach endeavoured to force the hand of his Chiefs by calling on the volunteers to follow him, but they, too, refused, and when he consented to return to Harrar, the Chiefs and the men appeared grateful to us for our refusal to countenance his scheme. || At this point we parted company, and returned slowly to Jig Jigga along the course of the Jerer. Our camels were in a bad state; all our ponies, excepting one, had died, and the men had had a hard time. || Mr. Gerolimato met us at Jig Jigga, and after a short halt there, where we reduced the strength of the party by dismissing all the men not absolutely required, we proceeded to Harrar. || The Ras was absent at Kombalcha, but the Acting Governor gave us a good reception in his absence. || On the following day the Ras arrived, and I had an interview with him, in which I gave him an account of the operations concluded. || He stated that the Chiefs and men had appreciated our presence with the force, and thanked us for having refused to agree to the Kanyazmach's scheme

of proceeding further south when his force were in such a bad plight — which would have, he agreed with us, ended in a probable disaster. || I returned the Ras' visit to Kombulcha on our return journey to Jig Jigga, when he received us in a markedly friendly manner and presented us in Durbar, by the Emperor's command, with the Order of the Star of Ethiopia of the second class, and a letter thanking us for our services. (Inclosure No. 4.) || The Ras here placed in our charge a zebra, a gift from the Emperor Menelek, to His Majesty, which, at King Menelek's request, we took with us to Aden and shipped in good condition on board the B. 1 steam-ship „Manora", and he since safely arrived in London. || After leaving Kombulcha, we returned viâ Fuyambiro to Jig Jigga. At Fuyambiro, where the Kanyazmach has his head-quarters, a great reception was given us by the Chiefs and many of the soldiers who had composed the expeditionary force, who accompanied us as far as Jig Jigga, where they left us with many manifestations of good-will. || I feel sure that our association with the force has created a personal feeling of a most friendly nature with the Chiefs and soldiery. || From Jig Jigga we returned to Berbera. || On arrival at Berbera, the expedition closed with the paying off of the caravan.

Anlage 1.

Foreign Office to Major Hanbury-Tracy.

Foreign Office, February 25, 1901.

Sir, || His Majesty's Government have had to consider the question of undertaking military operations against a certain Mullah, Mahomet-ben-Abdullah, who, having declared himself to be a Mahdi, has for some time harassed the southern borders of the British Protectorate in Somaliland, as well as the neighbouring Abyssinian districts. A levy of native troops is being raised and organized into a field force by Colonel Hayes Sadler, His Majesty's Gonsul-General at Berbera. It will be under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel E. G. Swayne, and it is understood that it will receive in the proposed advance against the Mullah, the co-operation of an Abyssinian force which the Emperor Menelek is prepared to employ with the same object. || In order to facilitate such co-operation, it appears to His Majesty's Government expedient that a British officer should, with the sanction of the Emperor Menelek, accompany the Abyssinian force destined to act against the Mullah for the purpose of facilitating their concerted action with the movements of the British force under Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne. || The Marquess of Lansdowne has, with

the approval of the Secretary of State for War, selected you for this duty. I am accordingly directed by his Lordship to request that you will start for Abyssinia with the least possible delay. His Majesty's Diplomatic Representative at the Court of the Emperor Menelek has been directed, by telegraph, to take such steps as may be necessary in order to enable you to carry out your mission. You will proceed to Zeyla, and, if necessary, to Berbera, before starting for the interior, in order to communicate with His Majesty's Consul-General, Colonel Hayes Sadler, and with Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne, from whom you will take your instructions as regards your military duties and whose wishes you will carry out, so far as circumstances will permit. || Your further movements will depend on the arrangements which will be made in direct consultation between Colonel Hayes Sadler and His Majesty's Agent in Abyssinia, who has been directed to obtain the necessary authority for your accompanying the Abyssinian forces. || Your military reports should be addressed to Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne for transmission home through His Majesty's Consul-General at Berbera, but duplicates should be sent to Lieutenant-Colonel Harrington, whom you should also address direct in regard to any political questions touching Abyssinia. || Lieutenant-Colonel Harrington has been informed that you are charged with important despatches addressed to him, and has been requested to arrange for your being met with the view to their safe conveyance to him. || You will receive, whilst employed on this special service in Abyssinia, pay at the rate of 600 *l.* a-year, inclusive of all allowances.

Martin Gosselin.

Anlage 2.

Foreign Office to Major Hanbury-Tracy.

Foreign Office, February 28, 1901.

Sir, || I am directed by the Marquess of Lansdowne to inform you that he has, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State for War, approved of Lieutenant R. Cobbold, of the reserve of officers, acting as your assistant whilst accompanying the Abyssinian force which is to co-operate with the British troops in Somaliland against the Mullah, Mahomet-ben-Abdullah. Mr. Cobbold bas been informed that, for the period of being so employed, he will be granted the local rank of Captain in the army. It is presumed that he will be ready to start for Berbera with you on the 6th March. || It must be clearly understood

that no expenses will fall to the charge of His Majesty's Government in connection with Mr. Cobbold's proceeding on this service.

Clement Ll. Hill.

Anlage 3.

Consul-General Sadler to Major Hanbury-Tracy.

Berbera, March 27, 1901.

Sir, || As soon as your caravan is ready you should proceed to Adadleh, where Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne will give you instructions regarding your military duties with the Abyssinian force operating in the Ogaden. || Arrangements have been made to supply you with a personal escort of two camel sowars and ten footmen. || In the event of the force to which you will be attached being in immediate proximity to our border you should, as far as you may be able, settle any differences which may arise between the Abyssinians and our tribes, referring any cases in which difficulty arises to Lieutenant-Colonel Harrington and myself. In this connection you should bear in mind that whilst our tribes are across the border they are, for the time, subject to the territorial jurisdiction of the country they are in. || In view of the relative positions of the two forces and the fact that our operations promise to be confined to the eastern portion of the Protectorate you will at present find it most difficult, if not impossible, to keep up direct communication with our expedition. You will doubtless consult Lieutenant-Colonel Swayne on this point. So far as can be seen at present you will probably find the most convenient way of keeping up communication by sending your reports to the Vice-Consul at Harrar, by whom they can be forwarded either by special messenger viâ Jig Jigga and Hargaisa, or by the ordinary postal route through Zeyla. || It is desirable that you should keep us informed of the progress of events in that part of the country in which you will be, and of the operations of the Abyssinian force, as frequently as opportunity offers, at least once in every two or three weeks. || I inclose letters of introduction to Ras Makonnen, the Governor of Harrar, and Mr. Gerolimato, our Vice-Consul at that place.

J. Hayes Sadler.

Anlage 4.

Ras Makonnen to Major Hanbury-Tracy and Captain Cobbold, on behalf of the Emperor Menelik II.

(Traduction.) || De la part de Ras Makonnen à mon auguste ami le Major l'Honorable Algernon Hanbury-Tracy et à mon ami le Capitaine

Ralph Cobbold. || Comme nous allons nous séparer maintenant, et vous allez rentrer dans votre pays, je désire vous remercier au nom de Sa Majesté l'Empereur Menelek II, Roi des Rois d'Éthiopie, pour l'assistance et les très bons services que vous avez bien voulu rendre à mes troupes commandées par le Ganiasmach Abanabro pendant le temps que vous étiez avec l'expédition dans l'Ogaden contre le Mullah. || Le Ganiasmach et tous les officiers ont été très satisfaits, parce que vous avez toujours bien voulu les assister et les aider. || J'ai l'espoir que votre présence parmi mes troupes affirmera la bonne amitié qui existe déjà entre les deux Gouvernements de la Grande-Bretagne et de l'Éthiopie.

Je vous envoie mes salutations. || Écrite à Harrar le 2 Pagounis, 1893 (7 Septembre, 1901). (Cachet.) Ras Makonnen.

Anlage 5.

Medical Report on the Abyssinian Expedition to the Ogaden against the Mad Mullah in 1901.

With the Abyssinian expedition to the Ogaden which was to cooperate with the British force against the Mad Mullah, two British officers, Major the Honourable A. Hanbury-Tracy and Captain R. P. Cobbold, were appointed to accompany, and with them a hospital assistant from India was directed to proceed, but as the hospital assistant could not arrive in time, I was requested by Major Tracy to take his (the hospital assistant's) place. I therefore left Harrar on the 8th May, and arrived in Jig Jigga on the 9th, where the Special Service Officers were waiting for me. Exactly three months after I gave over charge and returned to Harrar. || Medical equipment consisted of the „Congo" Medical Case (Burroughs and Wellcome's). List of the drugs and appliances it contained is attached. Besides these, Major Tracy made over to me some extra drugs, list of which is also attached. The Ras, with a view to assist, permitted me to go and take what I could find useful in one of his stores, but beyond a couple of small bundles of cotton wool I found nothing worth taking on the expedition. Few drugs and instruments I also took from my private stock. This medical equipment, although meagre, was, under the circumstances, fairly sufficient. || Strength of those who were primarily under my medical charge consisted of the two Special Service Officers, twelve Somali escort, twenty-four Somali camelmen, fourteen private servants (nine Somalis, four Abyssinians, and one Indian), five Somali syces, one Somali Headman, and one Abyssinian interpreter. But besides these our special escort of twenty Abyssinian soldiers

under an officer, an Arab officer with a following of about twenty men; and the sick from the Abyssinian expeditionary force, about 15000 strong' also received medical aid as far as possible. Some cases from the Somali villages on our march were also treated. The army found us on the 25th May and left us on its way back to Harrar on the 15th July. || During the period that I was attached to the expedition 494 cases were treated by me, out of which 104 belonged to our establishment, 29 were villagers, and the rest, 361, belonged to the Abyssinian army. Out of the total the Somalis numbered 130, Abyssinians, 360; and other classes, 4. Largest number of cases — 184 — were those of ulcers and abscesses, including two cases of erysipelas. Cases of bowel complaints, principally diarrhoea and dysentery, amounted to 122. Cases of fever numbered 103, injuries, accidental 23, and results of rows and quarrelling, &c., 18., and eye cases, 25. The balance — 19 cases — consisted of: ear affections, 3; throat affections, 4; skin diseases, 2; caries of teeth, 6, &c. || Minor operations performed numbered 53. These consisted of 47 incisions of abscesses, 1 enlargement of gunshot wound, and 5 extraction of teeth. || The only case of gunshot wound that occurred was an accidental one. Two Abyssinian soldiers captured twelve Somali prisoners of the Ibrahim tribe. While on their way to the camp one of the soldiers went some distance away from the rest. The prisoners, finding themselves in charge of a single man, overpowered him and escaped. While the struggle was going on the absent soldier hearing the cries for help fired from a distance, but instead of hitting the prisoners, as he meant to do, shot his own comrade just above the hip bone, the bullet passing through the abdomen from side to side. About twenty hours after the accident the patient was brought to me in a collapsed condition. In the absence of chloroform and assistance the little that could be done for the man was done, but the patient died a few hours after. || Ulcers and abscesses were principally caused by thorns and accidental injuries, legs and feet of the Abyssinians being quite unprotected and bare. Somalis, however, wear a sort of sandals which afford a certain amount of protection to their feet. || Fever and bowel complaints became rife on our arrival at Baligadud, a place about 40 miles east-north-east of Gerlogubi. Water supply was abundant about here, there being over a dozen large „jhils" or swamps within an area of about 20 miles. But the water of these swamps was very impure, being the rain washings of the surrounding country mixed with a large proportion of animal urine and excreta. Add to this the semi-starved and exhausted condition of the army and the cause of these complaints will be evident. Wonder is the soldiers

did not suffer more than they did. I may mention that although there was a good deal of fever of the malarial type there were no mosquitoes to account for it. || In connection with a bad case of jaundice which came under treatment, perhaps it will be interesting to point out that the Abyssinians call the complaint „wof" (which means, literally, a bird) and ascribe the complaint to the hovering of some sort of mythical night-bird over a man's head. The treatment for the malady is supposed to be the flesh of the same imaginary bird when obtainable. Anæmia called „mich" or stroke, is ascribed to the effect of the sun, while eating in the sunshine, or to the evil eye. Some sort of herb is said to be the treatment for it, but I have not been able to get the name of or the herb itself yet. || Fever is called ,,waba" or plague, and being a rare complaint in Abyssinia is looked upon as a very serious disease. There is no native treatment for it, but the virtue of quinine is getting to be known by the more intelligent section of the population. Mortality amounted to four from disease and one from gunshot wound. One of the deceased was a woman and four were males. Amongst those who died from sickness was one old „Girazmach" or General of the left wing. This officer was not in good health when he formed the expedition and three days after the force joined us he was taken ill with persistent hiccups, which appeared to be due to pure neurosis. Couple of days after the attack he asked for treatment, under which he recovered from hiccups but was taken ill with malarial fever. Being in a weak condition and unable to do the forced marches we were obliged to do, it was considered advisable to leave him behind in a village with some attendants. About four weeks after the news of his death was received. The remaining three cases of death from disease had not been under my treatment. The case of gunshot wound has been described above. || There was no death in our own establishment. || When hardships and privations the soldiers underwent is taken into consideration, it appears quite wonderful that there were so few cases of illness and so few deaths, and is, I think, a strong proof of their physical endurance and hardness. Majority of the soldiers were men between 20 and 30 years of age, but there was a very fair sprinkling of old men and mere youths. Generally speaking an Abyssinian is under the middle height and spare in build, and does not seem capable of standing much hardship and privation, yet his training in fasting twice a-week and half the year besides seems to fit him to bear fatigue and starvation wonderfully well. But, on the other hand, the unrestricted indulgence in „tej" (mead) and „talla" (beer) renders him such a thirsty subject that he succumbs under thirst

in a few hours. || There is no doubt that the Abyssinians for lack of medical arrangements of their own were very grateful for the medical and surgical aid they received through the benevolence of the British Government. The officers of the force of the Ras himself were quite pleased and gratified at this proof of friendship and goodwill and were very thankful for it.

C. Martin, *D. R. C. P., S. Ed.,*
Medical Officer attached to the Expedition.

Harrar, September 6, 1901.

Bündnisse, Verträge, Konventionen, Protokolle u. s. w.

Nr. 12973. DEUTSCHES REICH und ITALIEN. — Abkommen zur Abänderung des Übereinkommens vom 18. Januar 1892 betreffend den gegenseitigen Patent- Muster- und Markenschutz.

Rom, 4 Juni 1902.

Seine Majestät der Deutsche Kaiser, König von Preußen, im Namen des Deutschen Reichs, einerseits, und Seine Majestät der König von Italien, andererseits, haben, nachdem sich die Notwendigkeit ergeben hat, das am 18. Januar 1892 zwischen dem Deutschen Reiche und Italien abgeschlossene Übereinkommen, betreffend den gegenseitigen Patent-, Muster- und Markenschutz, einer Änderung zu unterziehen, zu diesem Zwecke Verhandlungen eröffnen lassen und zu Bevollmächtigten ernannt: || Seine Majestät der Deutsche Kaiser, König von Preußen: || Seine Exzellenz den Grafen Carl von Wedel, Allerhöchstseinen außerordentlichen und bevollmächtigten Botschafter bei Seiner Majestät dem Könige von Italien. || Seine Majestät der König von Italien: || Seine Exzellenz den Commendatore Giulio Prinetti, Allerhöchstseinen Minister der auswärtigen Angelegenheiten, || welche, nach Mitteilung ihrer in guter und gehöriger Form befundenen Vollmachten, das nachstehende Übereinkommen vereinbart und abgeschlossen haben:

Artikel 1.

Die Artikel 1 bis 4, 6 und 8 des Übereinkommens über den gegenseitigen Patent-, Muster- und Markenschutz vom 18. Januar 1892 werden aufgehoben.

Artikel 2.

In Artikel 5 des Übereinkommens wirddem Abs. 1 folgender Satz hinzugefügt: || „Durch diese Bestimmungen werden die Vergünstigungen, welche dem Inhaber eines Patents in Artikel 2 der Zusatzakte vom 14. Dezember 1900 zur internationalen Ükereinkunft zum Schutze des gewerblichen Eigentums vom 20. März 1883 zugesichert sind, nicht berührt.“

Artikel 3.

Für die in Deutschland als Gebrauchsmuster und in Italien als Erfindungen angemeldeten Gegenstände wird die durch Artikel 4 der Pariser Übereinkunft vom 20. März 1883 vorgesehene, durch die Brüsseler Zusatzakte vom 14. Dezember 1900 modifizierte Prioritätsfrist, wenn die Anmeldung zuerst in Deutschland bewirkt ist, auf 4 Monate, wenn die Anmeldung zuerst in Italien gemacht ist, auf 12 Monate bemessen.

Artikel 4.

Das vorliegende Abkommen tritt mit dem Zeitpunkt in Kraft, zu welchem der Beitritt des Deutschen Reichs zu der in Paris am 20. März 1883 geschlossenen internationalen Übereinkunft zum Schutze des gewerblichen Eigentums nebst der Brüsseler Zusatzakte vom 14. Dezember 1900 wirksam wird.

Artikel 5.

Diejenigen Erfindungen, Muster und Modelle, Fabrik- und Handelsmarken, welche vor dem in dem vorstehenden Artikel 4 bezeichneten Zeitpunkt angemeldet sind, genießen ein Vorrecht entweder nach Maßgabe der Artikel 3 und 4 des Übereinkommens vom 18. Januar 1892 oder nach Maßgabe des Artikel 4 der Pariser Übereinkunft, je nachdem das eine oder das andere dem Anmeldenden günstiger ist. || Das Übereinkommen soll ratifiziert und die Ratifikationen sobald als möglich in Rom ausgewechselt werden. || Zu Urkund dessen haben die beiderseitigen Bevollmächtigten das gegenwärtige Übereinkommen unterzeichnet und ihre Siegel beigedrückt.

So geschehen zu Rom, den 4. Juni 1902.

(L. S.) G. v. Wedel.

Nr. 12974. **DEUTSCHES REICH und SCHWEIZ.** — Abkommen zur Abänderung des Übereinkommens vom 13. April 1892, betreffend den gegenseitigen Patent-, Muster- und Markenschutz.

Bern, 26. Mai 1902.

Seine Majestät der Deutsche Kaiser, König von Preußen, im Namen des Deutschen Reichs, einerseits, und der Bundesrat der Schweizerischen Eidgenossenschaft, andererseits, || haben, in Anbetracht des bevorstehenden Beitritts des Deutschen Reichs zur internationalen Konvention zum Schutze des gewerblichen Eigentums, vom 20. März 1883, Unterhandlungen er-

öffnen lassen, um das Übereinkommen vom 13. April 1892, betreffend den gegenseitigen Patent-, Muster- und Markenschutz, den Bestimmungen der Konvention vom 20. März 1883 und der hierauf bezüglichen, am 14. Dezember 1900 in Brüssel vereinbarten Zusatzakte anzupassen, und zu Bevollmächtigten ernannt: || Seine Majestät der Deutsche Kaiser, König von Preußen: || Herrn Dr. Alfred von Bülow, außerordentlichen Gesandten und bevollmächtigten Minister bei der Schweizerischen Eidgenossenschaft, und || der Bundesrat der Schweizerischen Eidgenossenschaft: Herrn Bundesrat Ernst Brenner, Chef des Justiz- und Polizei-Departements, || welche nach gegenseitiger Mitteilung ihrer in guter und gehöriger Form befundenen Vollmachten, nachstehende Artikel vereinbart haben:

Artikel I.

Die Artikel 1 bis 4, 6, 8 und 9 des Übereinkommens, betreffend den gegenseitigen Patent-, Muster- und Markenschutz vom 13. April 1892, sowie das Schlußprotokoll und das Zusatzprotokoll zu diesem Übereinkommen werden aufgehoben.

Artikel II.

Dem Artikel 5 des Übereinkommens werden folgende Absätze hinzugefügt: || „Vorstehende Bestimmungen finden auf diejenigen Erfindungen nicht Anwendung, welche nach den Gesetzen eines der vertragschließenden Teile vom Patentschutz ausgeschlossen sind. Jedoch bleiben die Vergünstigungen, welche dem Inhaber eines Patents im Artikel 2 der Zusatzakte vom 14. Dezember 1900 zur internationalen Konvention zum Schutze des gewerblichen Eigentums, vom 20. März 1883, zugesichert sind, unberührt. || Rechtsnachteile, welche nach den Gesetzen der vertragschließenden Teile bei Erfindungspatenten im Falle der Lizenzverweigerung eintreten, werden durch die im zweiten Absatz enthaltenen Bestimmungen nicht ausgeschlossen."

Artikel III.

Das vorliegende Abkommen tritt mit dem Zeitpunkt in Kraft, zu welchem der Beitritt des Deutschen Reichs zu der in Paris am 20. März 1883 geschlossenen internationalen Konvention zum Schutze des gewerblichen Eigentums nebst der Brüsseler Zusatzakte vom 14. Dezember 1900 wirksam wird.

Artikel IV.

Für diejenigen Erfindungen, Muster und Modelle, Fabrik- und Handelsmarken, welche vor dem in dem Artikel III bezeichneten Zeitpunkt angemeldet worden sind, kommt eine Prioritätsfrist entweder nach Maß-

gabe der Artikel 3 und 4 des Übereinkommens vom 13. April 1892 oder nach Maßgabe des revidierten Artikel 4 der Pariser Konvention zur Geltung, je nachdem die eine oder die andere dem Anmeldenden günstiger ist.

Artikel V.

Das gegenwärtige Abkommen soll ratifiziert, und die Ratifikations-Urkunden sollen sobald als möglich in Bern ausgewechselt werden. || Zu Urkund dessen haben die beiderseitigen Bevollmächtigten das gegenwärtige Abkommen unterzeichnet und ihre Siegel beigedrückt.

So geschehen zu Bern, in doppelter Ausfertigung, den 26. Mai 1902.

(L. S.) A. Bülow. (L. S.) Brenner.

Nr. 12975. **DEUTSCHES REICH.** — Denkschrift dem Deutschen Reichstage bei Einbringung der vorstehenden Verträge vorgelegt.

15. Dezember 1902.

Die gesetzgebenden Körperschaften haben zu dem in Aussicht genommenen Beitritte des Reichs zu der internationalen Übereinkunft über den Schutz des gewerblichen Eigentums vom 20. März 1883 in der Gestalt, welche die Übereinkunft durch die Brüsseler Zusatzakte vom 14. Dezember 1900 erhalten hat, die Zustimmung erklärt. Der Beitritt sollte, wie in der Vorlage (Nr. 342 der Reichstags-Drucksachen) bemerkt war, nach Ratifikation der Brüsseler Zusatzakte durch alle Vertragsstaaten erfolgen. Inzwischen ist die Ratifikation innerhalb der in der Zusatzakte vorgesehenen Frist bewirkt worden. Allerdings haben nicht alle beteiligten Staaten ratifiziert. Vielmehr ist die Ratifikation von Serbien, Brasilien und der Dominikanischen Republik aus äußeren Gründen verzögert, von Spanien aus materiellen Gründen zunächst abgelehnt worden. Die übrigen Verbandsländer sind jedoch nach dem Schlußvermerk in dem angeschlossenen Ratifikations-Protokoll vom 14. Juni 1902 übereingekommen, die Zusatzakte unter sich zu dem dafür in Aussicht genommenen Zeitpunkte, d. h. mit dem 14. September d. J. in Wirksamkeit zu setzen. Unter diesen Umständen liegt es in der Absicht, auf Grund der von den gesetzgebenden Körperschaften erteilten Zustimmung demnächst den Anschluß des Reichs an den Verband derjenigen Staaten, welche ratifiziert haben, auszusprechen. Ist es auch an sich nicht erwünscht, daß einzelne Unionsstaaten der patentrechtlichen Gemeinschaft, in welche Deutschland eintreten will, einstweilen noch fernbleiben, so werden hierdurch doch die Gründe, welche in unseren Beziehungen zu den übrigen Unionsstaaten

für den Anschluß sprechen, in keiner Weise abgeschwächt. Neuerliche Kundgebungen zeigen, daß die deutsche Industrie sehr hohen Wert darauf legt, unser Verhältnis gerade zu einigen der größten Unionsstaaten, welche die Ratifikation bewirkt haben, auf der Grundlage der Union mit den in Brüssel beschlossenen Änderungen möglichst bald geregelt zu sehen. || Mit dem Beitritte des Reichs wird, wie bereits in der Eingangs erwähnten Vorlage hervorgehoben ist, die Umgestaltung der mit Österreich-Ungarn, Italien, der Schweiz und Serbien bestehenden Sonderverträge über den gegenseitigen Schutz des gewerblichen Eigentums notwendig. Während eine Verständigung mit Österreich - Ungarn und Serbien noch aussteht, sind die Verhandlungen mit Italien und der Schweiz abgeschlossen worden und haben zu den vorliegenden Abkommen geführt. || Im einzelnen ist folgendes zu bemerken.

A.

Abkommen mit Italien.

Artikel 1

hebt, um Zweifel über das künftige Verhältnis des Übereinkommens vom 18. Januar 1892 (Reichs-Gesetzbl. S. 292) zur Pariser Union zu vermeiden, diejenigen Bestimmungen des ersteren auf, welche durch entsprechende Vorschriften der internationalen Übereinkunft gedeckt sind. Es sind dies die Artikel 1 bis 4, 6 und 8. Der in den aufgehobenen Artikeln 1 und 2 aufgestellte Hauptgrundsatz, welcher die Gleichstellung der beiderseitigen Staatsangehörigen u. s. w. hinsichtlich des gewerblichen Rechtsschutzes gewährleistet, ist in den Artikeln 2 und 3 des Unionsvertrags enthalten. Die gegenseitige Einräumung des Prioritätsrechts in den Artikeln 3 und 4 des alten Übereinkommens entspricht dem Inhalt des Artikels 4 der Union. Der Grundsatz des alten Artikels über die Anerkennung der Voraussetzungen für die Eintragung von Schutzmarken ist in Artikel 6 der Union in Verbindung mit Nummer 4 des Schlußprotokolls zu derselben wiedergegeben. Artikel 8 ist, soweit er das Inkrafttreten der geltenden Verträge regelt, gegenstandslos geworden, während besondere Bestimmungen hinsichtlich einer etwaigen Kündigung des neuen Abkommens nicht erforderlich erschienen. || Hiernach bleiben nur die Artikel 5 und 7 des alten Übereinkommens in Wirksamkeit. || Die zeichenrechtliche Sonderbestimmung in Artikel 7 sowie die in Abs. 1 des Artikel 5 vereinbarte Erleichterung des Ausführungszwanges behalten auch in Zukunft selbständige Bedeutung. Der Abs. 2 des Artikel 5 ist, obwohl hinsichtlich der Erfindungen durch den Artikel 5 des Unionsvertrags gedeckt, wegen seines für Muster, Modelle und Marken maßgebenden Inhalts nicht zu entbehren. Die daneben erforderliche Ergänzung zu Artikel 5 des Übereinkommens vom 18. Januar 1892 enthält.

Artikel 2.

des vorliegenden Abkommens, indem hier zur Vermeidung von Zweifeln zum Ausdrucke gebracht wird, daß die in Artikel 2 der Zusatzakte vom 14. Dezember 1900 gewährten Vergünstigungen durch den Artikel 5 der alten Übereinkommen eine Einschränkung nicht erfahren.

Artikel 3.

Es kann bei der Anwendung der Artikel 2 und 3 des Unionsvertrages kein Zweifel darüber obwalten, daß der Beitritt des Reichs zur Union von selbst die Verpflichtung mit sich bringt, den Verbandsstaaten auch den Schutz der Gebrauchsmuster einzuräumen. Dabei gibt der Wortlaut des Artikel 4 des Unionsvertrags für die Frage, nach welchen Gesichtspunkten künftig die Prioritätsfristen für solche Schutzrechte zu behandeln sein werden, welche in den einzelnen Unionsländern einen verschiedenen Charakter (als Gebrauchsmuster oder Erfindung) haben können, einen Anhaltspunkt dahin, daß der Charakter des Schutzrechts im Ursprungslande für die Fristdauer entscheidend ist. Hiernach würde ein deutsches Gebrauchsmuster, seinem Namen und der inneren Natur des Rechtes gemäß, für die Anmeldung in einem der Verbandsstaaten, sei es als Erfindung, sei es als Muster, eine Priorität von 4 Monaten zu beanspruchen haben, während einer aus einem der Unionsländer herrührenden Patentanmeldung, auch wenn sie in Deutschland als Gebrauchsmuster in die Erscheinung tritt, eine Priorität für die Dauer von 12 Monaten zusteht. Diese sich bereits aus den vorhandenen Bestimmungen ergebende Auffassung ist — ohne von irgend einer Seite beanstandet zu werden — in der oben erwähnten Denkschrift den gesetzgebenden Körperschaften des Reichs mitgeteilt worden, wird aller Voraussicht nach für die Praxis der Behörden bestimmend sein und bedurfte daher an sich einer ausdrücklichen Aufnahme in die Abänderungsverträge nicht. Wenn vorstehende Auffassung gleichwohl in Artikel 3 des vorliegenden Abkommens mit Italien besonderen Ausdruck gefunden hat, so ist hierfür lediglich der Wunsch der italienischen Regierung maßgebend gewesen. Es darf jedoch aus dem Fehlen einer gleichen Vorschrift in den anderen Abkommen zur Abänderung unserer Sonderverträge kein Rückschluß in dem Sinne gezogen werden, als wenn die Frage im Verhältnisse zu den anderen Vertragsstaaten oder zu den Ländern, welche der Pariser Union angehören, anders gehandhabt werden sollte.

Artikel 4

setzt den Zeitpunkt fest, in dem die Umgestaltung des alten Übereinkommens wirksam wird. Da die Abänderung im engsten Zusammenhange mit dem Inhalte des Unionsvertrags steht, soll das vorliegende Abkommen in dem Augenblick in Wirksamkeit treten, in dem der Beitritt des Deutschen Reichs zur internationalen Übereinkunft Geltung erlangt.

Artikel 5

regelt den Übergangszustand für die zur Zeit des Inkrafttretens des vorliegenden Abkommens schwebenden Anmeldungen. Einer besonderen Bestimmung hierüber bedarf es, weil die Prioritätsfrist nach der internationalen Übereinkunft anders berechnet wird wie nach dem Übereinkommen vom 18. Januar 1892. Im Interesse der Anmelder ist eine Festsetzung in dem Sinne getroffen worden, daß die dem Anmeldenden günstigere, d. h. die längere Frist der Berechnung zu Grunde gelegt wird, und zwar unabhängig von der Ausübung eines Wahlrechts oder von der Abgabe einer besonderen Erklärung.

B.

Abkommen mit der Schweiz.

Da das deutsch-schweizerische Übereinkommen vom 13. April 1892 (Reichs-Gesetzbl. von 1894 S. 511) sich in den wesentlichen Bestimmungen mit dem deutsch-italienischen Übereinkommen vom 18. Januar 1892 deckt, sind auch die zu treffenden Änderungen ungefähr die gleichen. Es kann daher auf die Bemerkungen zu dem Abkommen mit Italien verwiesen werden. Die in letzterem Abkommen in Artikel III enthaltene Vorschrift über die Berechnung der Prioritätsfristen für solche Schutzrechte, welche in den verschiedenen Unionsländern verschiedenen Charakter (als Gebrauchsmuster und Erfindung) haben können, gilt, wie dort bereits hervorgehoben ist, auch ohne eine ausdrückliche Bestimmung im Verhältnis zur Schweiz. || Besonders zu erwähnen ist Folgendes:

Zu Artikel I.

Der Inhalt des Artikel 8 des Übereinkommens vom 13. April 1892 ist teils gegenstandslos geworden, nachdem beide vertragschließenden Teile der darin übernommenen Verpflichtung nachgekommen sind, teils wird er durch die Bestimmungen des Unionsvertrags (Artikel 9, 10) gedeckt. || Ebenso erübrigen sich die Nummern 1 bis 3 und 5 des Schlußprotokolls. Die in Nummer 1 enthaltene Bestimmung über den Handels-

namen ist in Artikel 8 der internationalen Übereinkunft wiedergegeben. Der Vorbehalt in Nummer 2, der eine Anmeldung in einem anderen als den vertragschließenden Staaten berücksichtigt, regelt sich in Zukunft nach den innerhalb der Union geltenden Grundsätzen. Nummer 3 wird mit der veränderten Fristberechnung gegenstandslos. Der Inhalt der Nummer 4 ist als besonderer Absatz dem Artikel 5 angeschlossen (vergl. nachstehend zu Artikel II). Der Vorbehalt in Nummer 5 hinsichtlich der Marken, deren Inhalt gegen die Sittlichkeit und die öffentliche Ordnung verstößt, ist durch die Vorschriften in Abs. 4 des Artikel 6 der Union und in Abs. 2 der Nummer 4 des Schlußprotokolls zur Union gedeckt. || Hiernach bleiben nur in Wirksamkeit Artikel 5 und 7 des alten Übereinkommens sowie Nummer 4 des Schlußprotokolls hierzu. Während Artikel 7 notwendig ist, um deutsche Erfinder nach wie vor von der nach dem schweizerischen Gesetz erforderlichen äußerlichen Kennzeichnung der Patentierung zu befreien, gilt hinsichtlich des Artikel 5 das zu Artikel 5 des deutsch-italienischen Übereinkommens vom 18. Januar 1892 Bemerkte.

Zu Artikel II.

Im Artikel II ist zunächst der Inhalt des alten Zusatzprotokolls, der insofern von Bedeutung bleibt, als er eine Einschränkung des teilweise über die Unionsbestimmungen hinausgreifenden Artikel 5 in sich schließt, behufs Vereinfachung der äußeren Anordnung des Stoffes als besonderer Absatz dem Artikel 5 angefügt und durch den auch in Artikel II des deutsch-italienischen Abkommens enthaltenen Zusatz ergänzt worden. || Außerdem ist die in Nummer 4 des Schlußprotokolls des alten Übereinkommens enthaltene Bestimmung aufrecht erhalten und aus redaktionellen Gründen als weiterer Absatz dem Artikel 5 des Übereinkommens angegliedert worden. Die Bestimmung erscheint an sich entbehrlich; ihre Aufrechterhaltung entspricht einer Anregung der schweizerischen Regierung, die hiermit etwaigen Zweifeln vorzubeugen wünschte.

Anlage.

Procès-verbal.

Les Parties contractantes ayant unanimement accepté que l'échange des ratifications sur l'Acte additionnel à la Convention du 20 mars 1883, signé à Bruxelles le 14 décembre 1900, se ferait moyennant le dépôt des instruments respectifs aux archives du Ministère des Affaires Etrangères de Belgique, le présent procès-verbal de dépôt a été, à cet effet, ouvert au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères ce jourd'hui 3 mai 1901.

Signé:
Lawrence Townsend.

Signé:
Jules Borel.

Signé:
F. G. Schack de Brockdorff.

Signé:
Cte de Tovar.

Signé:
Constantine Phipps.

Signé:
P. de Favereau.

Signé:
R. Cantagalli.

Signé:
S. Matsugata.

Signé:
A. Gérard.

Signé:
Cte Wrangel.

Signé:
Cte. Wrangel.

Signé:
R. de Pestel.

Ce même jour a été effectué le dépôt des ratifications du Président des Etats-Unis d'Amérique.

Ont été successivement présentées au dépôt:

Le 5 août 1901, les ratifications du Conseil fédéral suisse;

Le 10 octobre 1901, les ratifications de Sa Majesté le Roi de Danemark;

Les novembre 1901, les ratifications de Sa Majesté le Roi de Portugal et des Algarves;

Le 6 décembre 1901, les ratifications de Sa Majesté le Roi du Royaume-Uni de la Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande et des Possessions britanniques au delà des mers, Empereur des Indes;

Le 10 décembre 1901, les ratifications de Sa Majesté le Roi des Belges;

Le 12 décembre 1901, les ratifications de Sa Majesté le Roi d'Italie;

Le 21 avril 1902, les ratifications de Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon;

Le 23 mai 1902, les ratifications du Président de la République française et du Gouvernement tuisien;

Le 5 juin 1902, les ratifications de Sa Majesté le Roi de Suède et de Norvège, pour la Suède;

Le même jour, les ratifications de Sa Majesté le Roi de Suède et de Norvège, pour la Norvège;

Le 10 juin 1902, les ratifications de Sa Majesté la Reine des Pays-Bas.

Conformément à l'article 3 de l'Acte additionnel du 14 décembre 1900, le présent procès-verbal a été clos à la date de ce jour.

Bruxelles, le 14 juin 1902.

Le Ministre des Affaires Etrangères de Belgique,
Signé: P. de Favereau.

De dépôt des ratifications du Président des Etats-Unis du Brésil, du Président de la République Dominicaine, de Sa Majesté le Roi d'Espagne et de Sa Majesté le Roi de Serbie n'ayant pu être effectué dans le délai fixé, les Gouvernements de la Belgique, du Danemark, des Etats-Unis d'Amérique, de la France, de la Grande-Bretagne, de l'Italie, du Japon, de la Norvège, des Pays-Bas, du Portugal, de la Suède, de la Suisse et de la Tunisie se sont trouvés unanimement d'accord pour appliquer, à partir du 14 septembre 1902, l'Acte additionnel du 14 décembre 1900 entre eux, ainsi que vis-à-vis de ceux des quatre autres Etats signataires dont les ratifications seraient déposées dans l'intervalle.

Pour Copie Conforme:
Le Secrétaire Général
du Ministère des Affaires Etrangères de Belgique,
Signé: Bon Lambermont.

Nr. 12976. DEUTSCHES REICH und GROSSBRITANNIEN. — Abkommen der Interessensphären zwischen Nyassa- und Tanganyika-See.

Berlin, 23. Februar 1901.

Die Unterzeichneten, der königlich großbritannische außerordentliche und bevollmächtigte Botschafter, Sir Frank Cavendish Lascelles, und der Staatssekretär des Auswärtigen Amts des deutschen Reichs, Freiherr von Richthofen, haben, namens ihrer Regierungen, nach Prüfung der Vorschläge der gemischten Kommission, welche, in Gemäßheit des Artikels VI des Abkommens zwischen Deutschland und England vom 1. Juli, 1890, mit der örtlichen Feststellung der Grenzen der deutschen und englischen Interessensphären zwischen Nyassa- und Tanganyika-See von den beiderseitigen Regierungen betraut war, folgendes Abkommen getroffen:

§ 1.

Die Grenze soll folgenden, auf der anliegenden Karte, soweit nicht natürliche Wasserläufe als Grenzstrecken in Frage kommen, durch eine schwarze gebrochene Linie dargestellten Verlauf nehmen: sie beginnt bei der Mündung des Ssongwe-Flusses in den Nyassa-See und folgt diesem Flusse aufwärts bis zur Einmündung des Katendo-Baches in der Landschaft Tschitete; folgt dann dem Katendo aufwärts bis zu seinem Schnittpunkt mit dem von der Kommission ermittelten 33. Längengrad östlich von Greenwich, welche auf beiden Seiten des Katendo durch je einen Grenzpfosten (1) markiert ist, läuft dann in gerader Linie in einem Azi-

muth von 230° (vom wahren Nord) zu der Spitze des Nakungulu-(Ngungula-)Berges (2), welcher auf der Wasserscheide des geographischen Congobassins liegt. Von hier geht die Grenze längs der Wasserscheide über einen Grenzpfosten (3) ca. 6,5 km von Nakungulu bis zu einem Grenzpfosten (4) gegenüber der Quelle des Myemba-Baches; verläßt hier die Wasserscheide und folgt dem Myembe abwärts bis zu einem Grenzpfosten (5) auf dem linken Ufer ca. 119 m nördlich des Tontera-Dorfes; geht von hier in gerader Linie nach dem wahren Westen zu einem ca. 2560 m entfernten Grenzpfosten (6) auf die Wasserscheide zurück; folgt dann der Wasserscheide zwischen dem Nkana und seinen Zuflüssen im Norden und dem Karunga und seinen Zuflüssen im Süden über folgende Grenzpfosten: — || 1. Kumbi-Berg (7). || 2. Ca. 3 km nördlich der englischen Station Fife (8). || 3. Ca. 400 m südlich der Quelle des Ntakimba-Baches (9). || 4. Zwischen der alten und neuen Stevenson Road (10). || 5. Ca. 1700 m vom Nombwe-Dorf (11). || 6. Ca. 1700 m vom Kissitu-Dorf (12). || Bei diesem Grenzpfosten verläßt die Grenze die Wasserscheide und geht in gerader Linie zu einem Grenzpfosten (13) ca. 1200 m nordwestlich von der englischen Station Ikomba, und von dort in gerader Linie zu einem Grenzpfosten (14) im Suwa- (Zuwa-) Walde, ca. $3^1/_2$ km südlich von Karimansira Dorf, der wiederum auf der Wasserscheide ist; folgt dann der Wasserscheide über folgende Grenzpfosten: — || 1. Ca. 700 m westlich des Tshovere- (Chowere-) Dorfes (15). || 2. Dundundu Berg (16). || 3. Etwa halbwegs zwischen Mambwe, die auf der Karte mit den Nummern 18, 19, und 20 rot eingetragen sind. Der letzte dieser Grenzpfosten ist zugleich der Schnittpunkt der Wasserscheide mit dem von der Kommission ermittelten 32. Längengrad östlich von Greenwich. Die Grenze geht dann in gerader Linie zur Quelle des Massiëte-Baches und folgt diesem abwärts bis zum Einfluß des Masia-Baches (21); läuft von dort in gerader Linie zu einem Grenzpfosten am linken Ipundu-Ufer (22) südlich der Ruinen des Ipundu-Dorfes und dann in gerader Linie zur Vereinigung (23) des Ssaissi- (Saisi-) Flusses mit dem Kassokorwa- (Kasokolwa-) Bache; folgt dem Ssaissi aufwärts bis zum Einflusse des Rumi-Baches (Lumi), folgt dem Rumi aufwärts bis zum Einfluß des Mkumba-Baches, und folgt diesem aufwärts bis zu seiner Quelle. Von hier geht die Grenze in gerader Linie zu der Mitte des schmalen Sattels zwischen den Quellen des Mosi (Mozi) und Kipoko- (Chipoko-) Baches und von dort in gerader Linie zu der südöstlichen Quelle des Ssāfu- (Samfu-) Baches; folgt diesem abwärts bis er in den Kalambo mündet, und dann diesem abwärts bis zu seiner Einmündung in den Tanganyka-See.

§ 2

In allen Fällen, in denen ein Fluß oder Bach die Grenze bildet, soll der Talweg desselben die Grenze bilden; wenn jedoch ein eigentlicher Talweg nicht zu erkennen ist, so soll die Mitte des Bettes die Grenze bilden.

§ 3.

Eine etwaige Neubestimmung der geographischen Positionen der Grenzpfosten oder sonstigen hier erwähnten Punkte, soll nichts an der Grenze selbst ändern.

§ 4.

Sämtliche Grenzpfosten stehen unter gemeinsamem Schutz der deutschen und großbritannischen Regierungen. Die großbritannische Regierung will außerdem in ihren Schutz nehmen: die zementierten Beobachtungspfeiler im Telegraphenlager hinter Nkata-Bay und Kambwe-Lagun und die beiden Basispfeiler südlich der Ssongwe Mündung.

§ 5.

Sollte es später nötig werden, einen Grenzpfosten zu erneuern, so soll jede Regierung zu diesem Zwecke einen Vertreter entsenden. Sollte es später nötig werden, die Grenze durch mehr Pfosten genauer zu markieren, so soll jede Regierung einen Vertreter zu dem Bau der Zwischenpfeiler entsenden; die Lage dieser neuen Pfosten soll durch den auf anliegender Karte niedergelegten Verlauf der Grenze bestimmt werden.

(L. S.) Frank C. Lascelles. (L. S.) Frhr. v. Richthofen.

Nr. 12977. GROSSBRITANNIEN und ETHIOPIEN; ITALIEN. — Verträge über die Grenzen zwischen dem Sudan, Ethiopien und Eritrea.

Adis Ababa, 15. Mai 1902.

His Majesty Edward VII by the Grace of God, King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, Emperor of India, and His Majesty Menelek II, by the Grace of God, King of Kings of Ethiopia, being animated with the desire to confirm the friendly relations between the two Powers, and to settle the frontier between the Soudan and Ethiopia, and His Majesty King Edward, having appointed as his Pleniopotentiary Lieutenant-Colonel John Lane Harrington, a Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, His Majesty's Agent at the Court of His Majesty Menelek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia, whose full powers have been found in due and proper form,

and His Majesty the Emperor Menelek, negotiating in his own name as King of Kings of Ethiopia, they have agreed upon and do conclude the following Articles, which shall be binding on themselves, their heirs, and successors:

Article I.

The frontier between the Soudan and Ethiopia agreed on between the two Governments shall be: the line which is marked in red on the map annexed to this Treaty in duplicate, and traced from Khor Um Hagar to Gallabat, to the Blue Nile, Baro, Pibor, and Akobo Rivers to Melile, thence to the intersection of the 6th degree of north latitude with the 35th degree longitude east of Greenwich.

Article II.

The boundary, as defined in Article I, shall be delimited and marked on the ground by a Joint Boundary Commission, which shall be nominated by the two High Contracting Parties, who shall notify the same to their subjects after delimitation.

Article III.

His Majesty the Emperor Menelek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia, engages himself towards the Government of His Britannic Majesty not to construct, or allow to be constructed, any work across the Blue Nile, Lake Tsana, or the Sobat which would arrest the flow of their waters into the Nile except in agreement with His Britannic Majesty's Government and the Government of the Soudan.

Article IV.

His Majesty the Emperor Menelek, King of Kings of Ethiopia, engages himself to allow His Britannic Majesty's Government and the Government of the Soudan to select in the neighbourhood of Itang, on the Baro River, a block of territory having a river frontage of not more than 2000 metres, in area not exceeding 400 hectares, which shall be leased to the Government of the Soudan, to be administered and occupied as a commercial station, so long as the Soudan is under the Anglo-Egyptian Government. It is agreed between the two High Contracting Parties that the territory so leased shall not be used for any political or military purpose.

Article V.

His Majesty the Emperor Menelek, King of Kings of Ethiopia, grants His Britannic Majesty's Government and the Government of the Soudan

the right to construct a railway through Abyssinian territory to connect the Soudan with Uganda. || A route for the railway will be selected by mutual agreement between the two High Contracting Parties. || The present Treaty shall come into force as soon as its ratification by His Britannic Majesty shall have been notified to the Emperor of Ethiopia. || In faith of which His Majesty Menelek II, King of Kings of Ethiopia, in his own name, and Lieutenant-Colonel John Lane Harrington, on behalf of His Majesty King Edward VII, King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Sea, Emperor of India, have signed the present Treaty, in duplicate, written in the English and Amharic languages, identically, both texts being official, and have thereto affixed their seals.

Done at Adis Ababa, the 15th day of May, 1902.

(L. S.) John Lane Harrington,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

◯ (Seal of His Majesty the Emperor Menelek II.)

Note.

Annex to the Treaty of 10th July, 1900, regarding the frontier between Ethiopia and Eritrea, and the Treaty of 15th May, 1902, regarding the frontier between the Soudan and Ethiopia.

His Majesty the Emperor of Ethiopia, Menelek II, Major Ciccodicola, Italian Minister in Ethiopia, and Lieutenant-Colonel Harrington, His Britannic Majesty's Agent in Ethiopia, have mutually agreed that:

Article I.

The frontier Treaty between Ethiopia and Eritrea, previously determined by the line Tomat-Todluc, is mutually modified in the following manner: || Commencing from the junction of the Khor Um Hagar with the Setit, the new frontier follows this river to its junction with the Maieteb, following the latter's course so as to leave Mount Ala Tacura to Eritrea, and joins the Mareb at its junction with the Mai Ambessa. || The line from the junction of the Setit and Maieteb to the junction of the Mareb and Mai Ambessa shall be delimited by Italian and Ethiopian delegates, so that the Canama tribe belong to Eritrea.

Article II.

The frontier between the Soudan and Eritrea, instead of that delimited by the English and Italian delegates by the Convention of the

16th April, 1901, shall be the line which, from Sabderat, is traced viâ Abu Jamal to the junction of the Khor Um Hagar with the Setit. || The present Agreement shall come into force as soon as its ratifiction by the British and Italian Governments shall have been notified to the Emperor of Ethiopia. || In faith of which His Majesty the Emperor of Ethiopia, Menelek II, in his own name and that of his successors; Major Ciccodicola, in the name of His Majesty Victor Emmanuel III, King of Italy, and his successors; and Lieutenant-Colonel Harrington, in the name of His Majesty Edward VII, King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, Emperor of India, and his successors, have signed the present Note in triplicate, written in the Italian, English, and Amharic languages identically, all texts being official, and have thereto affixed their seals.

Done at Adis Ababa, this 15th day of May, 1902.

(L. S.) John Lane Harrington,
Lieutenant-Colonel.

(L. S.) Maggiore Federico Ciccodicola.

◯ (Seal of His Majesty the Emperor Menelek II.)

Nr. 12978. GROSSBRITANNIEN und PERSIEN. — Handelsvertrag.

Teheran, 9. Februar 1903.

Sa Majesté le Roi de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande, Empereur des Indes, et Sa Majesté le Schah de Perse, animés du même désir de consolider les rapports commerciaux entre les deux pays amis, ont jugé opportun de modifier et de compléter les dispositions établies par le deuxième alinéa de l'Article IX du Traité Anglo-Persan de Paris du 4 Mars, 1857, et ont nommé à cet effet pour leurs Plénipotentiaires, savoir: || Sa Majesté le Roi de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande, Empereur des Indes, son Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentiaire près la Cour de Perse, Sir Arthur Hardinge, Chevalier de l'Ordre de Saint-Michael et de Saint-George; et || Sa Majesté le Schah de Perse, son Premier Ministre, l'Atta Bek Azam Ali Asghar Khan Amin-es-Sultan; et le Sieur Joseph Naus, Ministre d'État, Administrateur-Général des Douanes et des Postes; || Lesquels, dûment autorisés à cet effet, sont convenus de ce qui suit: —

Article 1.

Les marchandises d'origine Britannique importées en Perse par les sujets Britanniques, et pareillement les productions de la Perse exportées

par les sujets Britanniques, seront soumises aux droits de douane fixés par les Tarifs détaillés (A)*) et (C) annexés à la présente Déclaration.

Article 2.

Les marchandises d'origine Britannique importées en Perse (voir Article 1) seront soumises au payement des droits de douane conformément au Tarif (A), une fois pour toutes, à leur entrée en Perse, et ne seront assujetties ensuite au payement d'aucun autre droit de douane ou d'autres charges, sauf celles prévues par l'Article 5 de la présente Déclaration. || Il est formellement stipulé que les sujets et les importations Britanniques en Perse, ainsi que les sujets Persans et les importations Persanes dans l'Empire Britannique, continueront à jouir sous tous les rapports du régime de la nation la plus favorisée; il est entendu qu'une Colonie Britannique ayant un régime douanier spécial, qui cesserait d'accorder aux importations Persanes le traitement de la nation la plus favorisée, n'aurait plus le droit de réclamer le même traitement pour ses propres importations en Perse. || Les produits Persans exportés en destination du Royaume-Uni payeront les droits de douane à leur entrée dans ce Royaume conformément au Tarif Général en vigueur, sous la réserve que ces importations bénéficieront toujours du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée. Dans le cas où le Royaume-Uni viendrait à établir dans son Tarif Général, sans un accord préalable avec la Perse, sur les produits Persans énumérés dans le Tarif (B) applicable aux importations Persanes en Russie (et annexé *ad memorandum* à la présente Déclaration), des droits autres que ceux qui existent actuellement dans le Tarif Général précité, et supérieurs aux droits inscrits dans le dit Tarif (B), la Perse aurait la faculté d'imposer à son tour des droits proportionnels aux provenances de même espèce du Royaume-Uni. Une Convention spéciale serait négociée dans ce but; à défaut d'entente, la présente Déclaration deviendrait nulle, et les deux Parties se trouveraient de noveau sous le régime antérieur consacré par l'Article IX du Traité de Paris. || Les Règlements édictés où à édicter pour les produits prohibés à l'importation dans le Royaume-Uni, et aussi pour les droits de sortie du Royaume-Uni, seront applicables au trafic Persan en ce Royaume.

Article 3.

Le droit de sortie de 5 pour cent existant jusqu'à présent en Perse sur les marchandises et produits exportés est totalement aboli, à l'excep-

*) Die Tarife sind hier fortgelassen. Red.

tion des droits de sortie établis par le Tarif (C) sur les produits y dénommés. || Les marchandises Britanniques et Persanes pourront, aux conditions du présent Arrangement, être librement exportées de l'un dans l'autre des deux États sous la réserve bien entendu des interdictions ou à établir par chacune de deux Hautes Parties Contractantes, soit dans un intérêt de sécurité ou de préservation sociale, soit pour empêcher éventuellement l'exportation de produits du sol qu'il serait momentanément nécessaire de réserver afin d'assurer l'alimentation publique.

Article 4.

Le Gouvernement Persan prend l'engagement de supprimer toutes les taxes de rahdari perçues actuellement pour l'entretien des routes de caravane, et de ne pas permettre l'établissement d'autres taxes de routes ou de barrière ailleurs que sur les voies carrossables, comportant des travaux d'art dont la Concession a déjà été accordée ou serait accordée par Firmans spéciaux. Les taux des taxes à percevoir dans ce cas par le concessionnaire seraient fixés par le Gouvernement Persan, qui en donnera connaissance à la Légation de Sa Majesté Britannique, ces taxes ne devant pas dépasser par farsakh celles de la route Resht-Téhéran; la perception ne pourrait commencer qu'après l'achèvement de la route ou du moins de ses principaux tronçons entre des localités importantes, et ne dépassant en aucun cas pour les marchandises Britanniques les taux prélevés des marchandises d'une autre provenance.

Article 5.

Le système de fermage pour la perception des droits de douane en Perse devant être aboli à jamais sera remplacé à toutes les frontières du Royaume par l'institution de bureaux de douane gouvernementale, organisés et administrés de manière à assurer aux commerçants l'égalité des perceptions et un bon traitement de leurs marchandises. || Le Gouvernement Persan prendra toutes les mesures nécessaires pour assurer d'une manière générale la sécurité des marchandises durant leur séjour dans les bureaux de la douane, et il assume la responsabilité directe de l'intégrité et de la bonne conservation des marchandises qui seront déposées dans les magasins des bureaux de la douane. En conséquence, le Gouvernement Persan s'engage à faire construire aussitôt que possible, et en tout cas pas plus tard que cela est indiqué ci-dessous dans la clause (*a*) de cet Article, dans les bureaux désignés à cet effet par un Règlement prévu ci-après, des magasins dûment clôturés et assez vastes pour y assurer l'emmagasinage des quantités de marchandises habituellement importées; dans tous les

autres bureaux il devra être établi des installations convenables en rapport avec les besoins du trafic de passage. Les commerçants Britanniques jouiront, dans les conditions fixées par le même Réglement, du droit d'entrepôt pendant douze mois à dater du jour de l'arrivée des marchandises, sans payer aucuns droits ni taxes pour la mise en entrepôt. || Un Règlement Général arrêté par l'Administration des Douanes et pour lequel il sera établi en accord avec la Légation d'Angleterre à Téhéran, fixera le plus tôt possible après la mise en vigueur de la présente Convention: || (*a.*) La classification des bureaux de douane et leurs attributions, les points des frontières de terre et de mer, et les chemins ouverts pour l'importation et l'exportation des marchandises, ainsi que l'organisation des magasins des bureaux de la douane et la fixation des termes indiquant l'inauguration des opérations de ces bureaux et magasins; || (*b.*) Les formalités à observer par le commerce pour l'importation et l'exportation des marchandises; || (*c.*) Le régime de l'entrepôt applicable aux marchandises Britanniques pendant douze mois à partir de leur arrivée dans un des bureaux ouverts à ce trafic; || (*d.*) Les payements à imposer au commerce, pour le séjour des marchandises dans les magasins de la Douane, ou pour tous autres services rendus par la Douane aux commerçants; || (*e.*) La procédure douanière concernant la vérification des marchandises frappées de droits spécifiques et l'évaluation de celles imposées *ad valorem*, ainsi que les amendes applicables au cas de fraude ou de violation des formalités et régles établies. || Pour ce qui concerne la procédure douanière applicable aux marchandises à l'entrée ou à la sortie du Royaume-Uni, les sujets Persans seront soumis aux lois édictées ou à édicter dans le dit Royaume sans que les dispositions de celles-ci puissent de quelque manière que ce soit consacrer, à l'égard du commerce des sujets Persans, des dispositions moins favorables que celles qui sont applicables aux commerçants des pays jouissant du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée.

Article 6.

L'acquittement des droits d'entrée dans le Royaume-Uni sera effectué en monnaies y admises pour le payement des taxes douanières. || Pour l'application des Tarifs (A) et (C), le batman Persan dit de Tauris sera calculé à 640 miscals Persans équivalent à 2,97 kilogrammes Français; et les 100 krans Persans seront calculés à l'équivalent en monnaie Anglaise de 48 francs Français en monnaie d'or. || Dans le cas où le change du kran par rapport au franc viendrait à baisser de plus de 10 pour cent et se maintiendrait tel plus d'un mois, le Gouvernement Persan aurait la faculté, après la constatation du fait par les principales banques

et notification préalable à la Légation de Sa Majesté Britannique, de hausser proportionnellement les taux de droits spécifiques inscrits dans les Tarifs (A) et (C). La notification relativement à l'élévation des droits devra être faite par le Gouvernement Persan à la Légation d'Angleterre à Téhéran au moins deux semaines avant que cette élévation soit appliquée. || Pour le cas d'une hausse dans le cours du kran dépassant 10 pour cent, et se maintenant tel durant plus d'un mois, le Gouvernement Britannique aura le droit de demander l'abaissement proportionnel des Tarifs (A) et (C), et le Gouvernement Persan serait tenu d'accorder le dit abaissement.

Article 7.

Le Gouvernement Persan s'engage à appliquer à toutes les frontières du Royaume les dispositions de la présente Convention, ainsi que les Tarifs (A) et (C) avec les modifications prévues par l'Article 6. || La présente Déclaration dont, en cas de contestation, le texte Français prévaudra, sera ratifiée, et les ratifications en seront échangées à Téhéran; elle sera promulguée par les deux Hauts Gouvernements et entrera en vigueur à la date qui sera fixée d'un commun accord.

Fait en double, en Français et en Persan, le 9 Février, 1903.

(L. S.) Arthur H. Hardinge.
(L. S.) J. Naus.

Anlagen.

Observations Additionnelles.

I. Acquittement des Droits.

Article 1. Les droits spécifiques inscrits dans le Tarif doivent être perçus intégralement sur les quantités présentées à l'importation ou à l'exportation et sans égard à la qualité, à la valeur relative ou à l'état des marchandises. Toutefois, lorsqu'il est dûment justifié d'événements ayant détérioré les marchandises en cours de transport, et s'il est reconnu qu'il n'y a aucune intention frauduleuse, le déclarant ou propriétaire aura la faculté de réclamer le triage et la destruction ou la réexportation des marchandises avariées. En outre, dans des cas exceptionnels, notamment lorsque des marchandises auront été avariées en cours de transport, des réductions de droits proportionnels à la perte de valeur pourront être accordées, mais seulement à l'intervention de l'Administration Centrale des Douanes. || De plus les sujets Britanniques auront toujours la faculté de réexporter en exemption des droits de douane les marchandises im-

portées qui se trouvent déposées en entrepôt ou dans un bureau d'entrée aussi longtemps que ces marchandises n'auront pas été déclarées pour la consommation. || Article 2. A l'égard des marchandises imposées à raison d'un nombre ou d'un poids déterminé, les droits sont dûs, lorsqu'il s'agit de plus fortes ou de moindres quantités, proportionnellement au taux indiqué au Tarif, comme si cette proportion était spécifiée à chaque article. Les droits se perçoivent dans la même proportion pour les marchandises tarifées à la valeur. || Article 3. Les droits de douane fixés par le Tarif Persan sont payables en nouveaux krans d'argent calculés à raison de 100 krans pour 18 roubles Russes ou 48 francs Français en monnaie d'or. || Il sera loisible aux sujets Britanniques de payer ces droits en Perse en monnaie du pays ou en billets de crédit de la Banque d'Angleterre d'après le calcul préindiqué, aussi longtemps que le Gouvernement Anglais garantira le remboursement de ces billets en or. || Dans le cas où le change du kran par rapport au rouble prédésigné viendrait à s'élever ou à s'abaisser de plus de 10 pour cent, le Gouvernement Persan, d'accord avec le Ministre d'Angleterre à Téhéran, prendra un Décret élevant ou abaissant proportionnellement le taux des droits spécifiques inscrits dans le Tarif.

II. Marchandises tarifées au Poids.

Article 4. L'unité de poids pour les marchandises imposées d'après cette base est le batman dit de Tauris de 640 miskals de Perse, soit de 2 kilog. 967 grammes de France. || Article 5. Les droits sur les marchandises qui sont indiquées dans le Tarif comme devant acquitter les droits d'après le poids brut sont calculés sur le poids réel de la marchandise, y compris le poids de ceux des emballages qui, d'après les usages du commerce, passent aux acheteurs avec la marchandise, notamment les bidons, futailles, bouteilles, cruchons, ou flacons contenant les liquides, les pots et boîtes de toute espèce, les cartons, les enveloppes de papier ou de toile, et tous autres emballages qui ne peuvent ou ne doivent être séparés de la marchandise sans la détériorer ou sans modifier la forme sous laquelle elle est habituellement présentée pour la vente en gros ou en détail. || Article 6. A l'égard des autres marchandises acquittant les droits au poids et pour lesquelles le Tarif n'indique pas qu'elles sont imposées d'après le poids brut, les importateurs devront stipuler dans leur déclaration s'ils désirent que les droits soient calculés: || Soit d'après le *poids net réel*, c'est-à-dire, d'après le poids de la marchandise dépouillée de tous ses emballages; || Soit d'après le *poids net légal*, c'est-à-dire, le poids cumulé de la marchandise et de tous ses emballages quelconques, défal-

cation faite de la *tare légale.* || A défaut d'indication dans la déclaration de l'option préindiquée, les droits seront toujours calculés d'après le *poids net légal.* || Article 7. La *tare légale* sur les marchandises imposées au poids est fixée comme suit: — || 1. Pour les faïences, porcelaines, verreries, glaces non encadrées et verres de vitrage, en caisses ou futailles, à 40 pour cent du poids brut total. || 2. Pour toutes autres marchandises: || (*a.*) En caisses ou futailles à 20 pour cent du poids brut total; || (*b.*) En paniers, canastres, ou autres emballages en cuir à 8 pour cent du poids brut total; || (*c.*) En nattes, sacs, ou autres emballages analogues à 3 pour cent du poids brut total. || Le calcul de la tare n'est pas applicable aux emballages qui ne recouvrent qu'imparfaitement la marchandise, tels que, par exemple, ceux faits de planchettes, à claire-voie, &c., &c. || Article 8. Les déclarants sont tenus de présenter les marchandises à la vérification en les dépouillant de leurs emballages, et ils sont également tenus de les faire remballer. || Toutefois, lorsque les déclarants présentent soit les factures originales, ou notes de fabricants ou commerçants en gros, soit des notes spécificatives de l'espèce, du poids et de la valeur des marchandises contenues dans chaque colis, la Douane devra se borner à faire vider suivant l'importance de l'expédition un ou plusieurs colis qu'elle désigne spécialement à cet effet. Mais si l'espèce des marchandises, le poids ou la valeur qui résultent de cette vérification par épreuve révèlent des différences supérieures à 5 pour cent des éléments de la déclaration, la Douane exigera que tous les colis soient vidés.

III. Marchandises tarifées à la Valeur.

Article 9. A l'égard des marchandises imposées d'après la valeur, les importateurs sont tenus de déclarer ou de faire déclarer par écrit la valeur sur laquelle ils désirent que les droits soient calculés. || Article 10. L'importateur doit déclarer séparément la valeur des marchandises contenues dans le même colis lorsque, tarifées d'après cette base, la valeur des unes diffère de celle des autres. Toutefois, lorsqu'il s'agit d'articles de mercerie ou de fantaisie ayant une certaine affinité entre eux, ou formant un assortiment dont la valeur ne dépasse pas 100 tomans, on pourra se borner à déclarer la valeur globale. || Article 11. La valeur à déclarer en douane est celle que les marchandises ont au lieu d'origine ou de production augmentée des frais d'emballage, d'achat, d'assurance, et de transport jusqu'au lieu l'importation ou d'exportation. || Article 12. Si la Douane juge insuffisante la valeur déclarée, elle peut à son choix demander aux déclarant de souscrire une déclaration supplémentaire ou bien retenir définitivement les marchandises, en payant aux intéressés le

montant de la valeur déclarée par eux augmenté de 10 pour cent à titre d'indemnité. La Douane est tenue d'effectuer le dit payement le plus tôt possible et au plus tard quinze jours après le moment où la préemption a été notifiée aux déclarants.

IV. Modifications au Tarif.

Article 13. En cas de changement au Tarif, le Tarif applicable est celui qui existe au moment de l'inscription en douane des marchandises au premier bureau d'entrée ou de sortie.

V. Marchandises omises au Tarif.

Article 14. Dans le cas où l'on présenterait à l'entrée en Perse des marchandises dont la classification est douteuse, l'Administration Centrale des Douanes aura le droit d'en décréter la tarification par assimilation aux marchandises avec lesquelles elles ont le plus d'analogie. || Toutefois, les décisions de l'espèce concernant les marchandises omises au Tarif seront prises d'accord avec le Ministre d'Angleterre à Téhéran.

VI. Procédure en matière de Contraventions.

Article 15. Toutes contraventions relativement aux règles fixées pour l'importation, l'exportation, ou le transit, de même que toutes contestations sur l'application du Tarif qui intéressent un sujet Britannique seront jugées en premier ressort par le Directeur des Douanes de la province à l'intervention du Consul d'Angleterre ou de son Délégué. Il sera toujours loisible à ce dernier d'interjeter appel de la décision intervenue, et dans ce cas le litige sera porté devant l'Administration Centrale des Douanes à Téhéran, où il sera jugé définitivement à l'intervention du Ministre d'Angleterre ou de son Délégué.

A.

Sir A. Hardinge to M. Naus.

Téhéran, le 12 Février, 1903.

M. le Ministre, || Tout en m'autorisant à signer, le 9 Février, la Déclaration concernant des nouveaux Tarifs dans les termes que nous avions rédigés, le Gouvernement du Roi tient à mettre au clair le sens qu'il attache à la dernière partie de l'Article II. || Il lui semble que la Convention Spéciale dont il est question dans cet Article ne deviendrait nécessaire qu'au cas de désaccord entre les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes par rapport aux nouveaux droits proportionnels que la Perse aura la faculté dans certaines éventualités de prélever. Il se pourrait que ces

droits missent les importations Anglaises, comparées à celles des autres pays ayant des Conventions Commerciales avec la Perse, sur un pied d'inégalité qui nous amènerait à demander un nouvel arrangement, à défaut duquel la Déclaration actuelle serait abrogée, et le régime antérieur rétabli. || La conclusion d'une Convention Spéciale consacrant un pareil arrangement ne découlerait cependant point *ipso facto* d'une augmentation réciproque de droits, mais seulement d'une contestation à ce sujet. || Nous estimons aussi que la suppression en Angleterre de nouveaux droits motivant du côté Persan les représailles prévues par la Déclaration entraînerait comme conséquence naturelle la cessation simultanée de celles-ci. Ce raisonnement n'est d'ailleurs qu'équitable. || Je vous prie, M. le Ministre, si ces vues sont conformes, comme je le pense, à celles du Gouvernement Persan, de vouloir bien me l'affirmer par écrit. Cet échange de notes constituerait alors une annexe à l'accord que nous venons de souscrire et écarterait la possibilité de tout malentendu ultérieur. || Les copies des Tarifs (A) et (C) annexés à la Déclaration ont été préparées à la hâte, vu la nécessité de les expédier le 10 courant à Londres, et contiennent par conséquent de nombreuses rectification et surcharges. Je prierais votre Excellence de bien vouloir m'en fournir, aussitôt que vous le pourrez, de nouvelles copies soigneusement collationnées, que je leur ferai substituer afin d'assurer que les droits et autres détails inscrits dans les Tarifs annexés à la Déclaration du 9 Février dernier soient identiques à ceux inscrits dans les Tarifs annexés à la Déclaration Russo-Persane du 27 Octobre, 1901. || Nous sommes convenus aujourd'hui que la Déclaration entrerait en vigueur le 14 courant. Elle ne pourra être promulguée en Angleterre que quelques semaines plus tard, mais comme elle n'y modifie point de fait le régime actuellement appliqué au commerce Persan, ce retard ne comporte, à mon avis, aucune, conséquence d'ordre pratique.

B.

M. Naus to Sir A. Hardinge.

Téhéran, le 13 Février, 1903.

M. le Ministre, || J'ai l'honneur d'accuser réception à votre Excellence de son office du 12 Février courant relatif à l'interprétation de certaines clauses de la Déclaration Anglo-Persane du 9 de ce mois. || En conséquence, prenant acte, au nom du Gouvernement Persan, de votre office précité et me référant au surplus aux conférences que j'ai eues avec votre Excellence à ce sujet, je résume ci-après les points sur lesquels notre accord commun est constaté. || 1. Article 2 *in fine*, relativement à la clause stipulant — || Que dans le cas où le Reyaume-Uni viendrait à établir dans

son Tarif Général, sans un accord préalable avec la Perse, sur les produits Persans énumérés dans le Tarif (B) applicable aux importations Persanes en Russie (annexé à la Déclaration *ad memorandum*) des droits autres que ceux qui existent actuellement dans son Tarif Général précité et supérieurs aux droits inscrits dans le dit Tarif (B), la Perse aurait la faculté d'imposer à son tour des droits proportionnels aux provenances de même espèce du Royaume-Uni; || Qu'une Convention Spéciale serait négociée dans ce but; et || Qu'à défaut d'entente la Déclaration deviendrait nulle et que les deux Parties se trouveront de nouveau sous le régime antérieur consacré par l'Article IX du Traité de Paris du 4 Mars, 1857; || Il est convenu — || (*a.*) Qu'il n'y aurait lieu à la négociation de la Convention prévue qu'en cas de contestations relativement à une augmentation réciproque de certains droits; || (*b.*) Que si le Royaume-Uni, après avoir établi dans son Tarif Général de nouveaux droits d'entrée, ayant justifié l'établissement en Perse de nouveaux droits d'entrée proportionnels, venait à supprimer les dits droits, cette suppression entraînera de plein droit la suppression des mêmes droits proportionnels à l'entrée en Perse; || (*c.*) Et enfin, afin d'éviter tout malentendu ultérieur sur ce point, il est formellement stipulé que le retour éventuel au „régime antérieur consacré par l'Article IX du Traité de Paris du 4 Mars, 1857", ne vise pas le rétablissement éventuel des droits antérieurs de 5 pour cent à l'entrée et à la sortie prévus par le Traité Russo-Persan de Tourkmantchai du 10 (22) Février, 1828, mais bien le retour éventuel au régime réciproque pur et simple de la nation la plus favorisée, sans stipulations de Tarif prévu par le dit Traité de Paris. || 2. Article 5. — Concernant l'application de la clause disant qu'un Règlement Général arrêté par l'Administration des Douanes pour lequel il sera établi un accord avec la Légation d'Angleterre à Téhéran fixera, &c., il est entendu que, puisque la Déclaration Russo-Persane du 27 Octobre, 1901, laquelle est antérieure, prévoit que le Règlement dont il s'agit devra être arrêté d'accord avec la Légation de Russie à Téhéran, c'est sur la base de la dite Déclaration Russo-Persane que l'accord sera établi avec la Légation d'Angleterre. || 3. Article 6. — Le Gouvernement Persan se déclare obligé en cas d'abaissement, sur la demande de la Légation de Russie à Téhéran, des droits de Douane à l'égard des marchandises importées de Russie, d'étendre aussitôt cet abaissement des droits aux marchandises Britanniques à leur entrée en Perse, de même qu'aux marchandises Persanes à leur exportation pour l'Empire Britannique, sans attendre une Déclaration spéciale à ce sujet de la part de la Légation d'Angleterre à Téhéran. || 4. Les copies des Tarifs (A) et (C) annexées à la Déclaration ayant été préparées à la

la hâte et contenant, par suite, de nombreuses rectifications et surcharges, il est entendu que l'Administration des Douanes en fera dresser, le plus tôt possible, de nouvelles copies soigneusement collationnées afin d'assurer que les droits et les autres détails inscrits soient strictement conformes à ceux inscrits dans les Tarifs annexés à la Déclaration Russo-Persane du 27 Octobre, 1901. Ces nouvelles copies seront substituées à celles qui ont été échangées primitivement. || J'ai l'honneur, M. le Ministre, de prier votre Excellence de bien vouloir me confirmer son accord au sujet des Déclarations qui précèdent, lesquelles constituent une annexe à la Déclaration du 9 Février, 1903. || Pour le surplus je marque à votre Excellence l'accord du Gouvernement Persan relativement à la promulgation ultérieure en Angleterre de la Déclaration échangée entre les deux Gouvernements.

Naus.

(C.)

Sir A. Hardinge to M. Naus.

Téhéran, le 14 Février, 1903.

M. le Ministre, || En réponse à l'office de votre Excellence en date d'hier, j'ai l'honneur de vous marquer mon accord, conformément à votre désir, au sujet des Déclarations explicatives y contenues, sous la réserve, pour ce qui concerne le Règlement Douanier visé par l'Article 5 de la Déclaration Russo-Persane, que tout droit ou avantage que ce Règlement concédera au Gouvernement et aux sujets Russes devra également être concédé, dans celui qui sera établi avec nous, au Gouvernement et aux sujets de Sa Majesté Britannique.

Arthur H. Hardinge.

Nr. 12979. VEREINIGTE STAATEN von AMERIKA und MEXIKO. — Vertrag über die Grenzen am Rio Grande und Colorado.

Washington, 1. März 1889.

The United States of Mexico and the United States of America, desiring to facilitate the carrying out of the principles contained in the treaty of November 12, 1884, and to avoid the difficulties occasioned by reason of the changes which take place in the bed of the Rio Grande and that of the Colorado river, in that portion thereof where they serve as a boundary between the two Republics, have resolved to conclude a treaty for the attainment of these objects, and have appointed as their respective Plenipotentiaries: || „The President of the United States of Mexico, Matias Romero, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States of Mexico at Washington; and || „The President of the

United States of America, Thomas F. Bayard, Secretary of State of the United States of America; || „Who, after having exhibited their respective full powers and having found the same to be in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:

Article I.

„All differences or questions that may arise on that portion of the frontier between the United States of Mexico and the United States of America where the Rio Grande and the Colorado rivers form the boundary line, whether such differences or questions grow out of alterations or changes in the bed of the aforesaid Rio Grande and that of the aforesaid Colorado river, or of works that may be constructed in said rivers, or of any other cause affecting the boundary line, shall be submitted for examination and decision to an International Boundary Commission, which shall have exclusive jurisdiction in the case of said differences or questions.

Article II.

„The International Boundary Commission shall be composed of a Commissioner appointed by the President of the United States of Mexico, and of another by the President of the United States of America, in accordance with the constitutional provisions of each country, of a Consulting Engineer, appointed in the same manner by each Government, and of such Secretaries and Interpreters as either Government may see fit to add to its Commission. Each Government separately shall fix the salaries and emoluments of the members of its Commission.

Article III.

„The International Boundary Commission shall not transact any business unless both Commissioners are present. It shall sit on the frontier of the two contracting countries, and shall establish itself at such places as it may determine upon; it shall, however, repair to places at which any of the difficulties or questions mentioned in this convention may arise, as soon as it shall have been duly notified thereof.

Article IV.

„When, owing to natural causes, any change shall take place in the bed ot the Rio Grande or in that of the Colorado River, in that portion thereof wherein those rivers form the boundary line between the two countries, which may affect the boundary line, notice of that fact shall be given by the proper local authorities on both sides to their respective

Commissioners of the International Boundary Commission, on receiving which notice it shall be the duty of the said Commission to repair to the place where the change has taken place or the question has arisen, to make a personal examination of such change, to compare it with the bed of the river as it was before the change took place, as shown by the surveys, and to decide whether it has occurred through avulsion or erosion, for the effects of Article I and II of the Convention of November 12, 1884; having done this, it shall make suitable annotations on the surveys of the boundary line.

Article V.

„Whenever the local authorities on any point of the frontier between the United States of Mexico and the United States of America, in that portion in which the Rio Grande and the Colorado River form the boundary between the two countries, shall think that works are being constucted, in either of those rivers, such as are prohibited by Article III of the convention of November, 12, 1884, or by Article VII of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo of February 2, 1848, they shall so notify their respective Commissioners, in order that the latter may at once submit the matter to the International Boundary Commission, and that said Commission may proceed, in accordance with the provisions of the foregoing article, to examine the case, and that it may decide whether the work is among the number of those which are permitted, or of those which are prohibited by the stipulations of those treaties. || „The Commission may provisionally suspend the construction of the works in question pending the investigation of the matter, and if it shall fail to agree on this point, the works shall be suspended, at the instance of one of the two Governments.

Article VI.

„In either of these cases, the Commission shall make a personal examination of the matter which occasions the change, the question or the complaint, and shall give its decision in regard to the same, in doing which it shall comply with the requirements established by a body of regulations to be prepared by the said Commission and approved by both Governments.

Article VII.

„The International Boundary Commission shall have power to call for papers and information, and it shall be the duty of the authorities of each of the two contries to send it any papers that it may call for, relating to any boundary question in which it may have jurisdiction in

pursuance of this Convention. || „The said Commission shall have power to summon any witnesses whose testimony it may think proper to take, and it shall be the duty of all persons thus summoned to appear before the same and to give their testimony, which shall be taken in accordance with such by-laws and regulations as may be adopted by the Commission and approved by both Governments. In case of the refusal of a witness to appear, he shall be compelled to do so, and to this end the Commission may make use of the same means that are used by the courts of the respective countries to compel the attendance of witnesses, in conformity with their respective laws.

Article VIII.

„If both Commissioners shall agree to a decision, their judgment shall be considered binding upon both Governments, unless one of them shall disapprove it within one month reckoned from the day on which it shall have been pronounced. In the latter case, both Governments shall take cognizance of the matter, and shall decide it amicably, bearing constantly in mind the stipulation of Article XXI of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo of February 2, 1848. || „The same shall be the case when the Commissioners shall fail to agree concerning the point which occasions the question, the complaint or the change, in which case each Commissioner shall prepare a report, in writing, which he shall lay before his Government.

Article IX.

„This Convention shall be ratified by both parties, in accordance with the provisions of their respective constitutions, and the ratifications thereof shall be exchanged at Washington as speedly as possible. || „In testimony whereof the undersigned Plenipotentiaries have signed and sealed it. || „Done in duplicate in the City of Washington, in the Spanish and English languages, on the 1st. day of March one thousand eight hundred and eighty nine.

(L. S.) Firmado: *M. Romero.*
(L. S.) Firmado: *T. F. Bayard.*

Nr. 12980. GUATEMALA und SALVADOR. — Allgemeiner Freundschafts- und Handelsvertrag.

Guatemala, 27. März 1895.

Los Gobiernos de Guatemala y El Salvador, deseando estrechar y fortalecer los vìnculos de fraternidad y las relaciones amistosas que felizmente existen entre las dos Repúblicas, y deseando, además, mantener la

paz y buena armonía que deben reinar entre pueblos hermanos, contribuyendo al desarrollo de sus intereses políticos y económicos y á su desenvolvimiento moral, han dispuesto celebrar un Tratado General de Paz, Amistad, Arbitraje, Comercio y Extradición; y al efecto han nombrado sus Plenipotenciarios, así: || El Gobierno de Guatemala al Excelentísimo señor licenciado don Jorge Muñoz, Secretario de Estado en el Despacho de Relaciones Exteriores; || Y el Gobierno de El Salvador al Execelentísimo señor doctor don Baltasar Estupinián, Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario ante el Gobierno de Guatemala; || Quienes después de haberse comunicado sus repectivos poderes, y encontrándolos en debida forma, han convenido en los artículos siguientes:

I.
Paz y Amistad.

Artículo 1°. — Habrá paz perpetua y amisted leal y sincera entre las Repúblicas de Guatemala y El Salvador. || Ambos países se pondrán de acuerdo siempre que fuere posible, y la importancia del caso lo demandare, para impulsar su progreso moral, intelectual é industrial, uniformando así y confundiendo sus intereses cual cumple á pueblos vecinos y hermanos. || Si por desgracia ocurriera alguna diferencia entre ellas procurarán terminarla de un modo amistoso; pero si esto no se lograre apelarán ineludiblemente al arbitraje, como medio civilizado y fraternal. || Artículo 2°. — Las Repúblicas de Guatemala y El Salvador se comprometen mutuamente á no intervenir la una en los negocios internos de la otra, respetándose su soberanía é independencia. || Tampoco intervendrán en las cuestiones que se originen en las otras Repúblicas hermanas de Centro-América; pero sí podrán interponer sus buenos oficios de un modo amistoso y consiliador, con el único y humanitario objeto de evitar la efusión de sangre. || Artículo 3°. — Con la mira de mantener por todos los medios justos el don inestimable de la paz, se estipula que las Altas Partes Contratantes no consentirán jamás que en sus respectivas fronteras ó en cualquiera otra parte de su territorio, se hagan enganches de gente, ó se preparen elementos y pertrechos de guerra para hostilizar á la otra ó que los descontentos, políticos abusen del derecho de asilo, maquinando ó conspirando contra las autoridades legítimas de las respectivas Repúblicas; debiendo ser alejados de las costas ó puntos fronterizos, caso de justificarse su hostilidad. || El Gobierno interesado dará al otro parte oficial de los trabajos y maquinaciones contra la paz interior de la República amenazada, para que se dicten las medidas oportunas á fin de evitar todo motivo de intranquilidad.

II.

Arbitraje.

Artículo 4°. — Estipulado el arbitraje como único medio de resolver las diferencias entre las dos Altas Partes Contratantes se establece que, la elección de árbitros se hará de preferencia entre los Presidentes de Costa Rica, Honduras y Nicaragua, designando al de aquella de esas Repúblicas que no tenga reclamaciones pendientes con alguna de las dos Altas Partes Contratantes. || Artículo 5°. — El nombramiento se hará, de común acuerdo, por las dos Altas Partes Contratantes, á más tardar dentro de sesenta días de publicada, por el periódico oficial, la nota en que se excita al otro Gobierno á dicho nombramiento, y no pudiendo ambas partes ponerse de acuerdo en la designación del árbitro, procederán sus representantes al sorteo de éste entre los soberanos ó Presidentes de las siguientes naciones: Alemania, República Argentina, Bélgica, España, Estados Unidos de América, Francia, Gran Bretaña, Italia y Suiza. || El primero de los sorteados será el árbitro, y si este no aceptase, séra el segundo y así sucesivamente. || Hecho el nombramiento del árbitro y aceptado por éste, se citará á las dos partes, fijándoles un término prudencial que no excederá de seis meses á fin de que dentro de él concurran por medio de sus Representantes, debidamente autorizados, á explicar y defender su causa, presentando los documentos que la apoyen. Dicha citación podrá hacerse por medio de un Agente Diplomático ó Consular del árbitro ó de cualquiera otra nación amiga. || Si alguna de las partes dejase de concurrir con las pruebas y alegatos dentro del término fijado, cualquiera que fuese el motivo, el árbitro, no obstante, procederá á conocer del asunto sometido, con vista del antecedente que se le hubiese suministrado por las dos ó por una de las partes; y, sin otra formalidad pronunciará su laudo, el que desde la fecha de la notificación, en la forma prevenida, adquiere la fuerza y validez de un tratado obligatorio é irrevocable entre ambas Partes Contratantes, que no harán ninguna reclamación contra el fallo arbitral y le darán fiel y exacto cumplimiento. || Artículo 6°. — Las dos Altas Partes Contratantes aceptarán como principios de arbitraje los del Tratado firmado en Washington á 28 de abril de 1890 por los Plenipotenciarios de las Repúblicas de Guatemala y El Salvador y los de Estados Unidos é Hispano-América, en la forma siguiente: || I El arbitraje es obligatorio en todas las cuestiones sobre privilegios diplomáticos y consulares, límites, territorios, indemnizaciones, derechos de navegación y validez, inteligencia y cumplimiento de tratados. || II El arbitraje es igualmente obligatorio, con la limitación del párrafo siguiente,

en todas las demás cuestiones no enumeradas en el anterior, cualesquiera que sean su causa, naturaleza ú objeto. || III Se exceptúan únicamente de las disposiciones del párrafo anterior aquellas cuestiones que, á juicio exclusivo de cada una de las naciones contratantes, comprometan su propia independencia. En este caso el arbitraje será voluntario de parte de dicha nación, pero será obligatorio para la otra parte.

III.
Reciprocidad.

Artículo 7°. — Los guatemaltecos residentes en El Salvador y los salvadoreños residentes en Guatemala, gozarán de los mismos derechos civiles de que gozan los naturales: y podrán adquirir bienes raíces, muebles y toda clase de propiedad por compraventa, donación, permuta, testamento, sucesión ab-intestato ó de cualquiera otra manera, sin más gravémenes que los que tienen los naturales de cada país. || Artículo 8°. — Los guatemaltecos residentes en El Salvador y los salvadoreños residentes en Guatemala, se considerarán como ciudadanos naturalizados en el país de su residencia, con tal de que reunan las condiciones que exigen las correspondientes Leyes Constitutivas, y de que declaren ante la autoridad departamental respectiva su deseo de ser ciudadanos guatemaltecos ó salvadoreños, ó acepten algún puesto ó cargo público, y en ese caso se presume aquel deseo. || Artículo 9°. — Los guatemaltecos ó salvadoreños no naturalizados en El Salvador ó en Guatemala, estarán exentos del servicio militar obligatorio, cualquiera que sea, por mar ó tierra, y de todo empréstito forzoso, exacciones ó requerimientos militares, y no se les obligará por ningún motivo á pagar más contribuciones ó tasas ordinarias ó extraordinarias que aquéllas que pagan los naturales. || Artículo 10. — Las Altas Partes Contratantes recibirán en su territorio á los Agentes Diplomáticos y Consulares que la una de las Repúblicas tenga á bien acreditar en la otra, ocogiéndolos y tratándolos conforme á las prácticas del Derecho Internacional generalmente aceptadas. || Artículo 11. — Los Agentes Diplomáticos de cada una de las Altas Partes Contratantes, favorecerán con sus buenos oficios la justicia que asista á sus nacionales; pero es entendido que en la defensa y resguardo de sus derechos é intereses y en sus reclamaciones y quejas contra la nación ó los particulares no podrán emplear más recursos que los que las leyes de cada una de las dos Repúblicas conceden á sus nacionales; debiendo conformarse con la resolución definitiva de los Tribunales de Justicia, sin poder en ningún caso apelar á la vía diplomática. || Artículo 12. — Los Gobiernos de Guatemala y El Salvador reconocen el principio de

que sólo responderán por los daños que sean causados por agentes del mismo Gobierno y por autoridades legítimas del país y nunca por facciones; debiendo hacerse la reclamación por la vía ordinaria de los Tribunales competentes de modo que los ciudadanos de una de las Altas Pertes Contratantes no puedan ser de mejor condición que los naturales de la otra. || Artículo 13. — Los guatemaltecos en El Salvador y los salvadoreños en Guatemala podrán ejercer sus profesiones, artes ú oficios con arreglo á las respectivas leyes y sin más requisitos que los que éstas establezcan para los nacionales, y los de presentar el título ó diploma correspondientes debidamente autenticados, justificar, en caso necesario, la identidad de la persona y obtener el pase del Poder Ejecutivo. || También serán válidos los estudios científicos ó literarios hechos en las Universidades, Escuelas facultativas é Institutos de segunda enseñanza en uno ú otro país, previas las autenticaciones de los documentos que acrediten dichos estudios y la identidad correspondiente. || Artículo 14. — Los guatemaltecos residentes en El Salvador y los salvadoreños residentes en Guatemala, gozarán del derecho de propiedad literaria, artística ó industrial en los mismos términos y sujetos á los mismos requisitos que los nacionales. || Artículo 15. — Las Altas Partes Contratantes convienen en organizar lo más pronto posible una comisión mixta que se reunirá en la capital de Guatemala ó de El Salvador, con el objeto de formular proyectos que uniformen las leyes de ambas Repúblicas en lo relativo á moneda, pesas y medidas, á estudios profesionales, reglamentos diplomáticos y consulares, reglamentos de instrucción pública, lo mismo que los códigos Penal, de Procedimientos, Civil y Mercantil. || Estos proyectos si fuesen aprobados por los Gobiernos, serán presentados á las Asambleas Legislativas para los efectos constitucionales.

IV.

Comercio.

Artículo 16. — El comercio por mar ó por las fronteras terrestres, de productos naturales ó artefectos manufacturados en Guatemala ó en El Salvador, será libre de todo derecho entre las dos Repúblicas y no estará gravado por impuestos locales ó municipales en su extracción ó internación. || Al efecto la autoridad política del Departamento de donde proceda el producto ó artefacto natural, certificará la procedencia del artículo y el Agente Consule respectivo visará la factura, procurándose que tanto en la Aduana de embarque como en la terrestre el Administrador correspondiente acredite que el producto es natural de Guatemala ó de El Salvador y de legítima procedencia. || No obstante lo estipulado

en el párrafo anterior, los Gobiernos de las Altas Partes Contratantes, de común acuerdo, dictarán todas aquellas providencias que conduzcan á evitar el fraude que pudiera hacerse al abrigo de las franquicias que se estipulan en el presente artículo. || Artículo 17. — No gozarán de las exenciones contenidas en el artículo anterior: 1° La sal; 2° los productos naturales ó manufacturados, estancados actualmente ó que en lo sucesivo se estanquen en beneficio del Estado en cada una de las Repúblicas contratantes: y 3° los artículos de ilícito comercio; y en general todos aquéllos que ambos Gobiernos convengan en exceptuar. || Los azúcares producidos en Guatemale que se importen á El Salvador ó producidos en El Salvador que se importen á Guatemala pagarán por todo derecho de introducción lo siguiente: || El azúcar sin refinar, dos pesos por quintal. || El azúcar mascabado ó panela, un peso por quintal. || No se permitirá la fabricación de licores ni de artículos estancados á una distancia menor de cuatro leguas de la respectiva frontera. || El que de cualquier manera defraudare ó intentare defraudar á la Hacienda Pública de alguno de los Estados Contratantes, á la sombra de las disposiciones de este Convenio, será perseguido y condenado conforme á las leyes fiscales respectivas.

V.

Navegación.

Artículo 18. — Las naves mercantes de Guatemala ó de El Salvador se considerarán en los ríos, mares, costas y puertos de los indicados países, como naves nacionales; gozarán de las mismas exenciones, franquicias y concesiones que éstas y no pagarán otros derechos ni tendrán otros gravámenes que los que paguen y tengan impuestos las embarcaciones del país respectivo. || Artículo 19. — Los Agentes Diplomáticos y Consulares de las Repúblicas Contratantes en las ciudades, plazas ó puertos extranjeros, prestarán á las personas, buques y demás propiedades de los ciudadanos de la otra, la misma protección que á las personas, buques y demás propiedades de sus compatriotas, sin exigir por esos servicios otros ó más altos derechos que los acostumbrados respecto de sus nacionales. || Artículo 20. — En el deseo de fomentar el comercio entre las Repúblicas contratantes, sus respectivos Gobiernos procurarán ponerse de acuerdo para el establecimiento de naves nacionales mercantes que hagan el comercio de cabotaje, ó para los arreglos y subvenciones que deban acordarse á las Compañías de Vapores que hagan el tráfico entre San Francisco de California y Panamá.

VI.

Correos, telégrafos y ferrocarriles.

Artículo 21. — Guatemala y El Salvador se comprometen á mantener para el servicio de Correos marítimos y terrestres las mismas bases de la Unión Postal Universal aceptadas por las dos Altas Partes Contratantes; y declaran libres de portes las publicacíones impresas hechas en cada una de dichas Repúblicas. || Artículo 22. — Se comprometen además á mejorar, en lo posible, sus comunicaciones telegráficas, quedando convenido que la correspondencia por telégrafo entre los dos países, no estará sujeta á más altos derechos diferenciales que los fijados en la tarifa más baja, establecida en cualquiera de las dos Repúblicas. || Artículo 23. — Las Altas Partes Contratantes llevarán á cabo la construcción de un puente sobre el río de Paz y mejorarán la carretera que las comunica, con arreglo al convenio de 4 de diciembre de 1882. || Igualmente convienen en proceder á la construcción de una línea telefónica que comunique las capitales de Guatemala y El Salvador, conforme el convenio diplomático de 6 de diciembre de 1888. || Artículo 24. — Habrá canje regular de publicaciones oficiales entre ambos países, y si fuere posible de las que hagan los particulares, y se depositarán en las bibliotecas ó archivos nacionales de cada país. || Artículo 25. — La República de Guatemala concede á la de El Salvador el derecho de unir la línea férrea que ésta última construye hacia Santa Ana, en un punto de la frontera guatemalteca, que se designará de acuerdo con el Gobierno de Guatemala, sea para enlazar sus ferrocarriles con la línea que pasa por Escuintla ó con la que toque en Chiquimula ó Zacapa. || Al efecto, si Guatemala no construyese por su propia cuenta un ramal que parta hacia la frontera salvadoreña, ó no conviniesen los Gobiernos contratantes en construirla costeándola entrambos por iguales partes, el de Guatemala consiente en acordar las favorables concesiones que estime convenientes á la Compañía que se organice en Guatemala ó en El Sal vador con tal objeto. || Artículo 26. — Si en cumplimiento de lo pactado en el artículo anterior quedasen enlazados los sistemas ferrocarrileros de las dos Altas Partes Contratantes, se estipula que las mercaderías en tránsito destinas das al tráfico y consumo en el interior de cada una de las Repúblicas é introducidas por los puertos de la otra, estarán exentos de derechos fiscales y municipales. De igual exención gozarán los frutos salvadoreños ó guatemaltecos destinados á la exportación por dichos puertos. || Lamercaderías y frutos de Guatemala que pasen por El Salvador ó las de El Salvador que pasen por Guatemala, no pagarán por razón de muellaje

y otros portes más derechos que los que en cada una de dichas Repúblicas, establezcan sus respectivas tarifas. || Artículo 27. — Establecido en Puerto Barrios el tráfico común á las dos Repúblicas contratantes, ambas convienen en costear, por iguales partes, las subvenciones razonables que sea necesario conceder y ambas concedan de común acuerdo á las Compañías de Vapores que hagan el servicio entre dicho puerto y los de Europa y Estados Unidos.

VII.

Documentos públicos.

Artículo 28. — Los instrumentos públicos de cualesquiera clase, otorgados en una de las Repúblicas contratantes serán válidos en la otra siempre que estén debidamente autenticadas y que en su celebración se hayan observado las leyes de la República de donde procedan.. || Artículo 29. — Las autoridades judiciales de las Repúblicas contratantes darán curso á las requisitorias en materia civil; de comercio ó criminal, concernientes á citaciones, interrogatorios, recepción de declaraciones, dictámenes de peritos y demás actos del procedimiento de instrucción. || Artículo 30. — Las sentencias en materia civil y crimininal, procedentes de acción personal debidamente legalizadas y emanadas de los Tribunales guatemaltecos ó salvadoreños, tendrán, por requerimiento de dichos Tribunales, en el territorio de una de las Altas Partes Contratantes, igual fuerza que las de los Tribunales locales y se ejecutarán del mismo modo que éstas. || Para que estas sentencias puedan cumplirse, deberán declararse previamente ejecutoriadas por el Tribunal Supremo correspondiente de la República en donde haya de tener la ejecución, y este Tribunal no las declarará tales sin que antes se haga constar sumariamente: || 1°. Que la sentencia ha sido pronunciada por autoridad judicial competente y con citación legal de parte; || 2°. Que las partes han sido legalmente representadas ó declaradas legalmente contumaces; || 3°. Que las sentencias no contienen disposiciones contrarias al orden público ó al Derecho público del Estado.

VIII.

Extradición.

Artículo 31. — Las Repúblicas de Guatemala y El Salvador en el deseo de que no queden impunes los delitos que se cometen en sus respectivos territorios, ni se eluda la responsabilidad criminal con la evasión de los delincuentes, convienen en entregarse recíprocamente los individuos que se refugien en el territorio de cada una de las dos Repúblicas y que en la otra hubiesen sido condenados ó estuviesen procesados por haber cometido en él, como autores ó cómplices, alguno de los delitos siguien-

tes: || Homicidio, incendio, robo, piratería, peculado, abigeato, falsificación de moneda ó de instrumentos públicos, estafa, malversación de caudales públicos, quiebra fraudulenta, falso testimonio y en general cualquiera otro por el cual pueda procesarse sin necesidad de acusación de parte, y que en el Código Penal común de la nación que se hubiese cometido, tenga señaladas las penas de muerte, presidio, trabajos forzados, ó privación de la libertad por un tiempo que no baje de dos años, aunque la pena de tal delito sea menor ó distinta en la nación del refugio. || Artículo 32. — La pena de dos años de privación de la libertad, señala la naturaleza de los delitos que motivan la extradicción cuando ésta se pide durante el enjuiciamiento; pero no limita los derechos del juicio si por circunstancias atenuantes ú otros esclarecimientos favorables al reo, fuere éste sentenciado á sufrir una pena menor. || Si la extradicción se pidiera á virtud de sentencia ejecutoriada, el reo será entregado siempre que la pena impuesta no baje de un año de privación de la libertad. || Artículo 33. — No se concederá extradición alguna de personas sentenciadas ó acusadas por delitos políticos, aun cuando resulten cometidos en conexión con algún crimen ó delito que pudiera motivarla. || Toca á los Tribunales de justicia de la República del asilo calificar la naturaleza de los delitos políticos. || El individuo entregado no podrá ser juzgado ni condenado por delitos políticos, ni por hechos relativos á ellos, que hubiere cometido antes de la extradición. || Artículo 34. — No se concederá la extradición si el reo reclamado hubiese sido ya juzgado y sentenciado por el mismo hecho en la República donde resida, si en ésta el hecho porque se pide la extradición no fuere considerado como delito, ó si conforme á las leyes de la República reclamante ó de las del asilo hubiese prescrito la acción ó la pena. || Si el individuo reclamado estuviere acusado ó hubiere sido condenado en el país del asilo, por delito cometido en él, no será entregado sino después de haber sido absuelto por sentencia firme, y en caso de condenación, después de haber extinguido la condena ó de haber sido indultado. || Artículo 35. — Las Altas Partes Contratantes no estarán en la obligación de entregar á sus nacionales; pero deberán enjuiciarlos por las infracciones de la ley penal, cometidas en la otra República, y el Gobierno de esta última deberá comunicar al de la otra las diligencias, informaciones y documentos corres, pondientes y remitirle los objetos que constituyen el cuerpo del delito-suministrando todo lo que conduzca al esclarecimiento necesario para la expedición del proceso. Verificado esto, el proceso criminal se continuará y terminará, y el Gobierno del país del juzgamiento informará al otro del estado definitivo de la causa y de la sentencia ó sobreseimiento. ||

Artículo 36. — La extradición será siempre concedida, aún cuando el presunto reo se halle impedido por esta entrega de cumplir obligaciones contraídas con gersonas particulares, las que tienen el derecho de ejercitar sus acciones ante las autoridades judiciales competentes. || Artículo 37. — La entrega será hecha siempre bajo la condición de que si la pena del crimen ó delito que motiva la extradición, no es igual en la de la nación reclamante y en la del refugio, se aplicará al delincuente la menor, y en ningún caso la de muerte. || Artículo 38. — Si el acusado ó condenado cuya extradición se solicita fuese igualmente reclamado por otro ú otros Gobiernos por crímenes cometidos en jurisdicción de ellos por el mismo culpado, éste será entregado de preferencia al Gobierno que primero hubiese hecho la demanda de extradición. || Artículo 39. — Para la extradición se entenderán directamente entre sí los Gobiernos de las Repúblicas de Guatemala y El Salvador, ó por la vía diplomática. En la reclamación se especificará la prueba ó principio de prueba que por las leyes de la República en que se hubiere cometido el delito, sea bastante para justificar la captura y enjuiciamiento del culpable. || También podrá acompañarse la sentencia condenatoria, acusación, mandamiento de prisión, ó cualquiera otro documento equivalente á este mandamiento; y deben indicarse la naturaleza y gravedad de los hechos imputados y las disposiciones penales que les sean aplicables. En caso de fuga del reo, después de estar condenado y antes de haber sufrido totalmente la pena, la reclamación expresará esta circunstancia é irá acompañada únicamente de la sentencia. || Artículo 40. — Para facilitar la prueba de la propiedad de los objetos y semovientes hurtados ó robados que se lleven de la una á la otra República, se establece que, la autorización y autenticación de los documentos respectivos quedan hacerse por las autoridades superiores políticas del Departamento en que el delito se haya cometido, y mientras se presentan los interesados, la autoridad judicial del país en que se encuentren los objetos ó semovientes, deberá ordenar su depósito, bastando para ese fin el requerimiento por telégrafo de cualquiera de las autoridades mencionadas. Comprobada la propiedad de dichas bienes, serán entregados á sus dueños, aunque la extradición del reo no proceda ó todavía no se haya decretado. || Artículo 41. — En casos urgentes se podrá solicitar la detención provisional del inculpado, por medio de comunicación telegráfica ó postal dirigida al Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, ó por medio del respectivo Agente Diplomático. El arresto provisional se verificará en la forma y según las reglas establecidas por la legislación del país del asilo; pero cesará si en el término de un mes, contado desde que se verificó, no se formalizare la reclamación de extradición. || Artí-

culo 42. — En todos los casos en que proceda la prisión del refugiado se le hará saber su causa en el término de veinticuatro horas, y que podrá dentro de tres días perentorios, contados desde el siguiente al de la notificación, oponerse á la extradición, alegando: || 1° Que no es la persona reclamada. || 2° Los defectos sustanciales de que adolezcan los documentos presentados; y || 3° La improcedencia del pedido de extradición. || Artículo 43. — En los casos en que sea necesaria la comprobación de los hechos, alegados, se abrirá el incidente á prueba, observándose en sus términos las prescripciones de la ley procesal de la República requerida. || Producida la prueba, el incidente será resuelto. sin más trámite en el término de diez días, declarando si hay ú no lugar á la extradición. || Contra dicha resolución se darán dentro de los tres días siguientes á su notificación los recursos legales que establezcan las leyes del país del asilo; pero cinco días después de trascurrido aquel término deberá dictarse, á más tardar, la resolución definitiva. || Artículo 44. — Los gastos que causen el arresto, manutención y trasporte del individuo reclamado, lo mismo que los de la entrega y traslación de los objetos que por tener relación con el delito deban restituirse ó remitirse, serán á cargo de la República que solicita la entrega.

IX.

Generalidades.

Artículo 45. — Las altas Partes Contratantes declaran solemnemente que no pueden conceptuarse ni conceptuar como naciones extranjeros á las Repúblicas de Centro-América, y que trabajarán constantemente por mantener entre todas ellas los vínculos de familia y la mayor cordialidad en sus relaciones, haciendo causa común entre sí y con ellas en los casos de guerra ó de dificultades con naciones extranjeras y mediando amigable y fraternalmente en sus trastornos de carácter privado. Al efecto se propondrá á su consideración el presente tratado, invitándolas á suscribirlo como tratado común centro-americanco, mientras llega el día en que puedan incorporarse en una sola nación. || Artículo 46. — Si alguno de los artículos de este tratado fuere violado ó infringido, se estipula expresamente que ninguna de las dos Altas Partes Contratantes ordenará ó autorizará actos de represalia ni declarará la guerra, sino es hasta que se hallen agotados todos los medios pacíficos de satisfación y avenimiento. Estos medios serán la exposición en memorias de las ofensas ó daños verificados, con pruebas ó testimonios competentes, presentados por el Gobierno que se crea agraviado, y si no se le diere la debida satisfacción se sujetará la decisión del asunto al arbitraje, como se estipula en este

Tratado. || Artículo 47. — El presente tratado será perpetuo y siempre obligatorio en cuanto se refiere á paz, amistad y arbitraje, y en lo relativo al comercio, extradición y demás estipulaciones, permanecerá en su fuerza y vigor por el término de diez años, contados desde el día del canje de las ratificaciones. Sin embargo, si un año antes de expirar dicho término, no se hubiese hecho por alguna de las Altas Partes Contratantes notificación oficial á la otra sobre la intención de terminarlo, continuará siempre obligatorio para ambas, hasta un año después de haberse hecho la referida notificación. || Artículo 48. — Este tratado será ratificado y las ratificaciones canjeadas en la ciudad de Guatemala ó en la de San Salvador en el término de dos meses, contados desde la última ratificación ó antes, si fuese posible. || Artículo 49. — Estando resumidas ó convenientemente modificadas en este Tratado las principales estipulaciones de los anteriormente celebrados entre Guatemala y El Salvador, se declara que todos quedan sin efecto y derogados por el actual, cuando sea debidamente aprobado y se verifique el cambio de las respectivas ratificaciones. || Si cualquiera de las Repúblicas signatarias desaprobare solamente alguno ó algunos de los artículos de este Tratado, queda obligada respecto de los que haya aprobado, en caso de que á juicio de la otra artículos no aprobados no sean indispensables para la subsistencia de los no incluidos en la desaprobación. || En fe de lo cual los Plenipotenciarios suscriben el presente por duplicado en la ciudad de Guatemala á los veinte y siete días del mes de marzo de mil ochocientos noventa y cinco, septuagésimo cuarto de la independencia de Centro-América.

Jorge Muñoz. Baltasar Estupinián.

Nr. 12981. GUATEMALA und COSTA RICA. — Allgemeiner Freundschaftsvertrag.

Guatemala, 15. Mai 1895.

Los Gobiernos de Guatemala y Costa-Rica, deseando estrechar las amistosas y fraternales relaciones que afortunadamente existen entre ambas Repúblicas, y asegurar entre ellas una paz sólida y estable, han dispuesto de común acuerdo la celebración de un Tratado General que armonice sus principales intereses, y al efecto han nombrado por sus Plenipotenciarios, á saber: || El Gobierno de Guatemala al señor Licenciado don Jorge Muñoz, su Secretario de Estado en el Despacho de Relaciones Exteriores, y el Gobierno de Costa-Rica al señor Licenciado don Alejandro Alvarado, su Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario en Guatemala. || Quienes después de haberse comunicado sus

respectivos plenos poderes y encontrándolos en debida forma, han convenido en los artículos siguientes: || Artículo 1°. — Habrá paz y amistad cincera entre las Repúblicas de Guatemala y Costa-Rica. || Si desgraciadamente ocurriere entre ellas alguna diferencia, procurarán terminarla de un modo amigable y fraternal; mas si este arreglo no se alcanzare, adoptarán precisa é ineludiblemente para concluir la desavenencia, el medio del arbitraje. || La designación del árbitro se hará por un cenvenio especial en que se expresará la cuestión y el procedimiento que deba seguirse en el juicio arbitral. || Y á fin de que el nombramiento de árbitro no pueda ser obstáculo nunca al cumplimiento de lo pactado, se estipula que si dentro del término de dos meses de publicado por uno de los Gobiernos contendientes, en su Periódico Oficial la nota en que se excite al otro para la elección de tal árbitro no se pusieren de acuerdo en su designación, se procederá á sortear al que debe llenar las funciones arbitrales, entre los Presidentes de los Estados Unidos de Norte América, de la República de Chile y de la República Argentina. || El primero de los sorteados será el árbitro; si este no aceptare, lo reemplazará el segundo y si ni éste se prestare á desempeñar el cargo, entrará como árbitro el tercero. || El árbitro conocerá de la cuestión que se le someta y la decidirá, ya sea á solicitud de entrambas, partes ya de cualquiera de ellas, y su fallo será inapelable. || Artículo 2°. — Guatemala y Costa Rica declaran que reconocen la conveniencia de la unión voluntaria y pacífica y aun la fusión de las Repúblicas de Centro-América; pero consideran como atentatorias al Derecho Internacional las empresas que tiendan á establecer esa unión ó fusión á mano armada. || Artículo 3°. — Los Gobiernos Contratantes reconocen como principio de su Derecho Público el deber de velar por el mantenimiento de la integridad del territorio centro-americano, y el de defender en común esa integridad de toda agresión exterior dirigida contra todas ó cualquiera de las Repúblicas de Centro-América. || Artículo 4°. — Interesados ambos gobiernos en el afianzamiento de la paz y deseosos de que se mantengan los lazos de fraternidad que deben unir siempre á las Repúblicas de Centro-América, se obligan recíprocamente á respetar, como es debido, la autonomía de todas aquéllas, dando exacto cumplimiento al principio de no intervención en sus asuntos interiores. || Artículo 5°. — Guatemala y Costa-Rica reconocen como inviolable el derecho de asilo. Si algunos emigrados políticos se acogieren al territorio de una ú otro República, gozarán de su asilo; pero se cuidará de que éste no se convierta en perjuicio de la seguridad y derechos del país de donde procedan los emigrados. || En consecuencia, no se permitirá que en el territorio de la República que

concede el asilo, se preparen ó armen expediciones que tengan por objeto alterar el orden público de la otra. || Artículo 6°. — Las Partes Contratantes procurarán que las estipulaciones de los cinco artículos anteriores, á saber: sobre arbitraje, unión de Centro-América por los medios pacíficos, integridad de su territorio, no intervención é inviolabilidad del derecho de asilo, que ellas reconocen y proclaman como principios del Derecho Público Centro-Americano, sean reconocidos y aceptados de igual modo por los demás Gobiernos Centro-Americanos. || Artículo 7°. — Los guatemaltecos residentes en Costa Rica, y los costarricenses en Guatemala, se considerarán como ciudadanos naturalizados en el país de su residencia, con tal de que reunan las condiciones que exigen las correspondientes constituciones y de que declaren ante la autoridad local respectiva, su deseo de ser ciudadanos guatemaltecos ó costarricenses ó acepten algún empleo ó cargo público, y en ese caso se presume aquel deseo. || En cuanto al goce de los derechos civiles, estarán equiparados á los naturales de la manera más absoluta sin reserva ni diferencia alguna, especialmente en cuanto á libertades y seguridades personales y de domicilio; á los medios de adquirir bienes de toda clase, poseerlos, conservarlos, transferirlos y transportarlos dentro y fuera de la República, y al libre ejercicio del comercio y la navegación: todo sin otras limitaciones, formalidades é impuestos nacionales ó municipales que aquellos á que están sujetos los naturales. || Artículo 8°. — El ejercicio de los derechos políticos, en su caso, y el servicio de cualquier empleo ó cargo público por parte de los ciudadanos de una República en la otra, nunca y en ningún caso podrán afectar la nacionalidad ni la ciudadanía de su origen, mas en la República donde tales derechos, empleos ó cargos ejerzan, están sujetos á todas las cargas y servicios obligatorios á los naturales. || Artículo 9°. — Los guatemaltecos en Costa Rica y los costarricenses en Guatemala, podrán ejercer con arreglo á las leyes del país en que residan, sus profesiones ú oficios, sin más requisitos previos que la presentación del título ó diploma debidamente autenticado, la justificación de la identidad de la persona, si fuere necesaria, y el pase correspondiente del Poder Ejecutivo. || También serán válidos los estudios científicos ó literarios hechos en las Universidades, Escuelas Facultativas é Institutos de segunda enseñanza en uno ú otro país, previas las autenticaciones de los documentos que acrediten dichos estudios y la prueba de identidad correspondiente. || Artículo 10. — Los guatemaltecos en Costa Rica y los costarricenses en Guatemala, gozarán del derecho de propiedad literaria ó artística, en los mismos términos y sujetos á iguales requisitos que los naturales. || Artículo 11. — Los documentos públicos ó

auténticos, títulos académicos ó profesionales y escrituras de cualquiera naturaleza que sean, extendidos ú otorgados conforme á las leyes de la una ó de la otra República, respectivamente, valdrán en aquella donde se presenten para que tenga efecto, y se les dará entera fe si contuvieren los requisitos necesarios de autenticidad. || Los exhortos que para examen de testigos, notificaciones y otras diligencias análogas de tramitación judicial se expidieren de una de las Repúblicas contratantes á la otra, serán evacuados por la que los reciba, siempre que medie solicitud de autoridad legítima, enviada en forma por conducto de los respectivos Gobiernos, y siempre que haya persona encargada que, en caso de ser preciso, suministre las expensas que el asunto demande. || Artículo 12. — Las sentencias en materia civil y comercial, procedentes de acción personal, debidamente legalizadas y emanadas de los tribunales de una de las partes contratantes, tendrân por requerimientos de dichos tribunales en el territorio de la otra parte, igual fuerza que las emanadas en los tribunales locales, y se ejecutarán del mismo modo que éstas. || Para que dichas sentencias puedan ser cumplimentadas, deberán declararse previamente ejecutoriadas por el tribunal correspondiente en donde haya de verificarse la ejecución; y este tribunal no las declarará tales, sin que antes se haga constar sumariamente: || I. Que la sentencia ha sido pronunciada por autoridad judicial competente, y con citación legal de partes; II. Que las partes han sido legalmente representadas ó declaradas legalmentecontumaces; || III. Que los sentencias no contienen disposiciones contrarias al orden público ó al Derecho Público del Estado. || Artículo 13. — Las relaciones comerciales de una de las Repúblicas con la otra, en ningún caso podrán cerrarse si no es á consecuencia de una declaración formal de guerra entre las Partes Contratantes, lo cual es casi imposible desde luego que al deber y buen nombre de ellas cumple guardar lo estipulado en los artículos anteriores. || Artículo 14. — Si se suscitare algún desacuerdo ó desavenencia entre una de las Partes Contratantes y otra de las Repúblicas de Centro-América, la otra Parte ofrecerá á aquéllas sus buenos oficios y mediará á fin de conducir á una solución amigable la cuestión pendiente. || En el remoto caso de que la mediación expresada no tuviere resultado satisfactorio, y por desgracia sobreviniere un rompimiento, la parte mediadora se compromete á guardar la más estricta neutralidad, sin perjuicio de redoblar sus esfuerzos, si lo creyere conveniente, para que cesen cuanto antes las hostilidades comenzadas. || Cuando el desacuerdo ó desavenencia ocurriese entre otras de las Repúblicas Centro-Americanas, las partes contratantes conjuntamente ó cada una de por sí, ofrecerán á aquéllas su mediación á fin de mantener la

armonía general de Centro-América.. Artículo 15. — Si se suscitare cuestión entre uno de los Gobiernos contratantes y alguna potencia extranjera, el otro ofrecerá sus buenos oficios, excitando á los demás Gobiernos de Centro-América para que por su parte hagan lo mismo, hasta lograr un avenimiento equitativo y satisfactorio. || Este compromiso deberá cumplirse desde que se tenga conocimiento de la cuestión y los correspondientes informes de su naturaleza y circunstancias. || Artículo 16. — Si por desgracia, alguna nación hiciere la guerra á Guatemala ó á Costa Rica, las partes contratantes convienen en no hacer con dicha nación alianza ofensiva, ni prestarle ninguna clase de auxilios; pero esto no obsta para que puedan pactar entre sí alianzas para la defensa de sus respectivos derechos. || Artículo 17. — Los guatemaltecos ó costarricenses no naturalizados en Guatemala ó en Costa Rica, estarán exentos del servicio militar obligatorio, cualquiera que sea, por mar ó tierra y de todo empréstito forzoso, exacciones ó requerimientos militares, y no se les obligará por ningúu motivo á pagar más contribuciones ó tasas ordinarias ó extraordinarias que aquellas que pagan los naturales. || Artículo 18. — Las Partes Contratantes recibirán en su territorio á los Agentes Diplomáticos y Consulares que una de las Repúblicas tenga á bien acreditar en la otra, acogiéndolos y tratándolos conforme á las prácticas del Derecho Internacional generalmente aceptadas. || Artículo 19. — Los Agentes Diplomáticos de cada una de las Partes Contratantes, favorecerán con sus buenos oficios la justicia que asista á sus nacionales; pero es entendido que en la defensa y resguardo de sus derechos é intereses y en sus reclamaciones y quejas contra la nación ó los particulares, no podrán emplear más recursos que los que las leyes de cada una de las Repúblicas conceden á sus nacionales; debiendo conformarse con la resolución definitiva de los Tribunales de Justicia, sin poder en ningún caso apelar á la vía diplomática. || Artículo 20. — Los Gobiernos de Guatemala y Costa Rica reconocen el principio de que sólo responderán por los daños y perjuicios causados á los naturales de una de las Partes Contratantes en el territorio de la otra, cuando fueren irrogados por Agentes del Gobierno y por autoridades legítimas del país, en cuyo caso los perjudicados deben ser atendidos por las autoridades de la República donde lo han sido, y obtener de ellas la debida justicia bajo las mismas leyes á que están sujetos los naturales: de tal suerte que los ciudadanos de una de las Repúblicas contratantes no puedan ser de mejor condición que los naturales de la otra. || Artículo 21. — La navegación de los ríos, lagos, lagunas, golfos, bahías ó mares de cualquiera de las Repúblicas contratantes, será libre para todos los ciudadanos de la otra en los mismos

términos y con las mismas limitaciones que para los nacionales. || Las naves mercantes de cualquiera de las Partes, se considerarán en los ríos, lagos, mares, costas ó puertos de la otra como las naves nacionales, tendrán las mismas exenciones, franquicias y concesiones que éstas; y no pagarán otros derechos ni tendrán otros gravámenes que los que paguen y tengan impuestos las embarcaciones del país. || Artículo 22. — Los Agentes Diplomáticos y Consulares de las Repúblicas Contratantes, en las ciudades, plazas ó puertos extranjeros, prestarán á las personas, buques y demás propiedades de los ciudadanos de la otra, la misma, protección que á las personas, buques y demás propiedades de sus compatriotas, sin exigir por esos servicios otros ó más altos derechos que los acostumbrados respecto de sus nacionales. || Artículo 23. — Habrá canje regular de publicaciones oficiales entre ambos países, y si fuere posible de las que hagan los particulares, y se depositarán en las bibliotecas ó archivos nacionales de cada país. || Artículo 24. — En el deseo de fomentar el comercio entre las Repúblicas Contratantes, sus respectivos Gobiernos procurarán ponerse de acuerde para el establecimiento de naves nacionales, mercantes que hagan el comercio de cabotaje ó para los arreglos y subvenciones que deban acordarse á las compañías de vapores que hagan el tráfico entre San Francisco de California y Panamá. || Artículo 25. — Los Gobiernos de Guatemala y Costa Rica, deseosos de que no queden impunes los delitos que se cometan en sus respectivos territorios, ni se eluda la responsabilidad criminal con la evasión de los delincuentes convienen, en entregarse recíprocamente los individuos que se refugien en el territorio de cada una de las dos Repúblicas, y que en la otra hubiesen sido condenados ó estuviesen procesados por haber cometido en ella, como autores ó cómplices, alguno de los delitos siguientes: homicidio, incendio, robo, piratería, peculado, abigeato, falsificación de moneda, sellos é instrumentos públicos, bonos y documentos de crédito del Estado, billetes de banco ó cualquier otro valor público, estafa, malversación de caudales públicos, quiebra fraudulenta, falso testimonio y en general cualquier otro delito por el cual pueda procesarse sin necesidad de acusación de parte y que, en el Código Penal común de la Nación en que se hubiese cometido tenga señaladas las penas de muerte, presidio, trabajos forzados ó privación de la libertad por un tiempo que no baje de dos años aunque la pena de tal delito, sea menor ó distinta en la Nación del refugio. || Artículo 26. — La pena de dos años de privación de la libertad, señala la naturaleza de los delitos que motivan la extradición, cuando ésta se pide durante el enjuiciamiento; pero no limita los efectos del juicio, si por circunstancias atenuantes ú otros esclareci-

mientos favorables al reo, fuere éste sentenciado á sufrir una pena menor. Si la extradición se pidiere en virtud de sentencia ejecutoriada, el reo será entregado, siempre que la pena impuesta no baje de un año de privación de la libertad. || Artículo 27. — No se concederá extradición alguna de persouas sentenciadas ó acusadas por delitos políticos, aun cuando resulten cometidos en conexión con algún crimen ó delito que pudiera motivarla. || Al Gobierno de la República del asilo toca calificar la naturaleza de los delitos políticos. || El individuo entregado no podrá ser juzgado ni condenado por delitos políticos, ni por hechos relativos á ellos que hubiere cometido antes de la extradición. || Artículo 28. — No se concederá la extradición, si el reo reclamado hubiere ya sido juzgado y sentenciado por el mismo hecho en la República donde resida, si en ésta el hecho por que se pide la extradición no fuere considerado como delito, ó si conforme á las leyes de la República reclamante ó de la del asilo, hubiere prescrito la acción ó la pena. Si el individuo reclamado estuviere acusado ó hubiere sido condenado en el país del asilo, por delito cometido en él, no será entregado sino después de haber sido absuelto por sentencia firme, y en caso de condenación, después de haber extinguido la condena ó de haber sido indultado. || Artículo 29. — Las Partes Contratantes, no estarán en la obligación de entregar á sus nacionales; pero deberán enjuiciarlos por las infracciones de la ley penal, cometidas en la otra República, y el Gobierno de ésta última, deberá comunicar al de la otra las diligencias, informaciones y documentos correspondientes, y remitirle los objetos que constituyan el cuerpo del delito, suministrando todo lo que conduzca al esclarecimiento necesario para la expedición del proceso. Verificado esto, el juicio criminal se continuará y terminará, y el Gobierno del país del juzgamiento informará al otro del estado definitivo de la causa. || Artículo 30. — La extradición será siempre concedida, aun cuando el presunto reo se halle impedido, por esta entrega, de cumplir obligaciones contraídas con personas particulares, á quienes se reserva, en todo caso, el derecho para ejercitar sus acciones ante la autoridad judicial competente. || Artículo 31. — La entrega será hecha, siempre bajo la condición de que si la pena del crimen ó delito que motiva la extradición, no es igual en la nación reclamante y en la del refugio, se impondrá al delincuente la menor, y en ningún caso la de muerte. || Artículo 32. — Cuando el acusado ó condenado cuya extradición se solicita por una de las Partes Contratantes, fuere igualmente reclamado por otro ú otros Gobiernos á causa de crímenes ó delitos cometidos en jurisdicción de ellos, por el mismo culpado, éste será entregado de preferencia al Gobierno que primero hubiere hecho la demanda de

extradición. || Artículo 33. — La extradición se acordará en virtud de reclamación hecha por uno de los Gobiernos Contratantes al del país donde está refugiado el criminal. Esta reclamación se hará por la vía diplomática, irá acompañada de la sentencia condenatoria, acusación, mandamiento de prisión ó cualquier otro documento equivalente á este mandamiento, y en ella deberán indicarse la naturaleza y gravedad de los hechos imputados, las disposiciones penales que les sean aplicables, y se hará constar la prueba ó principio de prueba que por las leyes del Estado reclamante sea suficiente para justificar la captura y enjuiciamiento del inculpado. || En caso de fuga del reo después de estar condenado y antes de haber sufrido totalmente la pena, la reclamación expresará esta circunstancia, é irá acompañada unicamente de la sentencia. || Artículo 34. — Los gastos que causen el arresto, manutención y transporte del individuo reclamado, lo mismo que los de entrega y traslación de los objetos que, por tener relación con el delito deban restituirse ó remitirse, serán á cargo de la República que solicita la entrega. || Artículo 35. — Cada uno de los Gobiernos Contratantes se obliga á comuuicar al otro las sentencias condenatorias por el crimen ó delito de cualquiera naturaleza, pronunciadas por los Tribunales de un Estado contra ciudadanos del otro. Esta comunicación se hará mediante el envío, por la vía diplomática, de la sentencia pronunciada y ejecutoriada al Gobierno respectivo, para que se deposite en el archivo del territorio competente. || Artículo 36. — El presente Tratado abroga el de diez de marzo de mil ochocientos cuarenta y ocho, único vigente, por no haber sido ratificados y canjeados los que posteriormente se celebraron. || Será perpetuo en lo relativo á las estipulaciones sobre paz, amistad y arbitraje, y durará por diez años en todo lo demás; pero si ninguna de las Partes Contratantes lo denunciare antes de la expiración del último año, continuará indefinidamente hasta un año después que se haga tal denuncia. || El canje de las ratificaciones se hará en esta ciudad ó en San José de Costa Rica, en el término de dos meses después de la última ratificación ó antes si fuere posible. || En fe de lo cual, los Plenipotenciarios arriba mencionados firman por duplicado y sellan con sus respectivos sellos este Tratado, constante de treintiséis artículos, en la ciudad de Guatemala, á los quince días del mes de mayo de mil ochocientos noventa y cinco.

[L. S.] Jorge Muñoz.

[L. S.] A. Alvarado.

Nr. 12982. **SAN SALVADOR und COSTA RICA.** — Allgemeiner Freundschaftsvertrag.

San Salvador, 12. Juni 1895.

Los Gobiernos de El Salvador y Costa Rica, deseando estrechar las amistosas y fraternales relaciones que afortunadamente existen entre ambas Repúblicas y asegurar entre ellas una paz sòlida y estable, han dispuesto de común acuerdo la celebración de un Tratado general que armonice sus principales intereses, y al efecto han nombrado, por sus Plenipotenciarios, á saber: || El Gobierno de El Salvador, al señor doctor don Jaciento Castellanos, su Secretario de Estado en el Despacho de Relaciones Exteriores; y el Gobierno de Costa Rica, al señor licenciado don Alejandro Alvarado, su Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario en El Salvador. || Quienes después de haberse comunicado sus respectivos plenos poderes, y encontrándolos en debida forma, han convenido en los artículos siguientes:

Artículo I.

Habrá paz y amistad sincera entre las Repúblicas de El Salvador y Costa Rica. || Si desgraciadamente ocurriera entre ellas alguna diferencia, procurarán terminarla de un modo amigable y fraternal; más si este arreglo no se alcanzare, adoptarán precisa é ineludiblemente para concluir la desavenencia, el medio del arbitraje. || La designación del árbitro, se hará por un convenio especial en que se expresará la cuestión y el procedimiento que deba seguirse en el juicio arbitral. || Y á fin de que el nombramiento de árbitro no pueda ser obstáculo nunca al cumplimiento de lo pactado, se estipula que si dentro del término de dos meses de publicada por uno de los Gobiernos contendientes en su periódico oficial, la nota en que se excite al otro para la elección de tal árbitro, no se pusiesen de acuerdo en su designación, se procederá á sortear al que debe llenar las funciones arbitrales, entre los Presidentes de los Estados Unidos de Norte América, de la República de Chile y de la República Argentina. || El primero de los sorteados será el árbitro; si éste no aceptare lo reemplazará el segundo, y si ni éste se prestare á desempeñar el cargo, entrará como árbitro el tercero. || El árbitro conocerá de la cuestión que se le someta, y la decidirá ya sea á solicitud de entrambas partes, ya de cualquiera de ellas, y su fallo será inapelable.

Artículo II.

El Salvador y Costa Rica declaran, que reconocen la conveniencia de la unión, voluntaria y pacífica y aun la fusión de las Repúblicas de

Centro-América; pero consideran como atentatorias al Derecho Internacional las empresas que tiendan á establecer esta unión ó fusión, á mano armada.

Artículo III.

Los Gobiernos contratantes, reconocen como principio de su Derecho Público el deber de velar por el mantenimiento de la integridad del territorio centro-americano, y el de defender en común esa integridad de toda agresión exterior dirigida contra todas ó cualquiera de las Repúblicas de Centro-América.

Artículo IV.

Interesados ambos Gobiernos en el afianzamiento de la paz y deseosos de que se mantengan los lazos de fraternidad que deben unir siempre á las Repúblicas de Centro-América, se obligan recíprocamente á respetar, como es debido, la autonomía de todos aquellos, dando exacto cumplimiento al principio de no intervención en sus asuntos interiores.

Artículo V.

El Salvador y Costa Rica reconocen como inviolable el derecho de asilo. Si algunos emigrados políticos se acogieren al territorio de una ú otra República, gozarán de su asilo; pero se cuidará de que éste, no se convierta en perjuicio de la seguridad y derechos del país de donde procedan los emigrados. || En consecuencia, no se permitirá que en el territorio de la República que concede el asilo, se preparen ó armen expediciones que tengan por objeto alterar el orden público de la otra.

Artículo VI.

La spartes contratantes procurarán que las estipulationes de los cinco artículos anteriores, á saber: sobre arbitraje, unión de Centro-América por los medios pacíficos, integridad de su territorio, no intervención é inviolabilidad del derecho de asilo, que ellas reconocen y proclaman como principios del Derecho Público centro-americano, sean reconocidos y aceptados de igual modo por los demás Gobiernos centro-americanos.

Artículo VII.

Los salvadoreños residentes en Costa Rica y los costarricenses residentes en El Salvador, se considerarán como ciudadanos naturalizados en el país de su residencia, con tal de que reunan las condiciones que exijen las correspondientes Constituciones y de que declaren ante la autoridad local respectiva, su deseo de ser ciudadanos salvadoreños ó costarricenses ó acepten algún empleo ó cargo público y en ese caso se presume aquel

deseo. || En cuanto al goce de los derechos civiles, estarán equiparados á los naturales de la manera más absoluta, sin reserva ni diferencia alguna, especialmente en cuanto á libertades y seguridades personales y de domicilio; á los medios de adquirir bienes de toda clase, poseerlos, conservarlos, trasferirlos y trasportarlos dentro y fuera de la República y al libre ejercicio del comercio y la navegación: todo, sin otras limitaciones, formalidades é impuestos nacionales ó municipales, que aquellos á que están sujetos los naturales.

Artículo VIII.

El ejercicio de los derechos políticos en su caso, y el servicio de cualquier empleo ó cargo público por parte de los ciudadanos de una República en la otra, nunca, y en ningún caso, podrán afectar la nacionalidad ni la ciudadanía de su origen; mas en la República, donde tales derechos, empleos ó cargos ejerzan, están sujetos á todos los cargos y servicios obligatorios á que se hallan sometidos los naturales.

Artículo IX.

Los salvadoreños en Costa Rica y los costarricenses en El Salvador, podrán el ejercer con arreglo á las leyes del país en que residan, sus profesiones ú oficios, sin más requisitos previos que la presentación del título ó diploma debidamente autenticado, la justificación de la identidad de la persona, si fuere necesaria y el „pase" correspondiente del Poder Ejecutivo. || También serán válidos los estudios científicos ó literarios hechos en las Universidades, Escuelas, Facultades é Institutos de segunda enseñanza en uno ú otro país, previas las autenticaciones de los documentos que acrediten dichos estudios y la prueba de identidad correspondiente.

Artículo X.

Los salvadoreños en Costa Rica y los costarricenses en El Salvador, gozarán del derecho de propiedad literaria ó artística en los mismos términos y sujetos á iguales requisitos que los naturales.

Artículo XI.

Los documentos públicos ó auténticos, títulos académicos ó profesionales y escrituras de cualquier naturaleza que sean extendidos ú otorgados conforme á las leyes de la una ó de la otra República, respectivamente, valdrán en aquella donde se presenten para que tengan efecto, y se les dará entera fe si contuvieren los requisitos necesarios de autenticidad. || Los exhortos que para examen de testigos, notificaciones ú otras diligencias análogas de tramitación judicial se expidieren de una de las

Repúblicas contratantes á la otra, serán evacuados por la que los reciba, siempre que medie solicitud de autoridad legítima, enviada en forma por conducto de los respectivos Gobiernos, y siempre que haya persona encargada que, en caso de ser preciso, suministre las expensas que el asueto demande.

Artículo XII.

Las sentencias en materia civil y comercial, procedentes de acción personal, debidamente legalizadas y emanadas de los Tribunales de una de las partes contratantes, tendrán por requerimientos de dichos Tribunales en el territorio de la otra parte, igual fuerza que las emanadas de los Tribunales locales, y se ejecutarán del mismo modo que éstas. || Para que dichas sentencias puedan ser cumplimentadas, deberán declararse previamente ejecutoriadas por el Tribunal correspondiente, en donde haya de verificarse la ejecución; y este Tribunal no las declarará tales, sin que antes se haga constar sumariamente: || 1° Que la sentencia ha sido pronunciada por autoridad judicial competente y con citación legal de partes; || 2° Que las partes han sido legalmente representadas ó declaradas legalmente contumaces; || 3° Que las sentencias no contienen disposiciones contrarias al orden público ó al Derecho Público del Estado.

Artículo XIII.

Las relaciones comerciales de una de las Repúblicas con la otra, en ningún caso podrán cerrarse sino es á consecuencia de una declaración formal de guerra entre las partes contratantes, lo cual es imposible casi, desde luego que al deber y buen nombre de ellas cumple guardar lo estipulado en los artículos anteriores.

Artículo XIV.

Si se suscitare algún desacuerdo ó desavenencia entre una de las partes contratantes y otra de las Repúblicas de Centro-América, la otra parte ofrecerá á aquellas sus buenos oficios y mediará á fin de conducir á una solución amigable, la cuestión pendiente. || En el remoto caso de que la mediación expresada no tuviere resultado satisfactorio y por desgracia sobrvieniere rompimiento, la parte mediadora se compromete á guardar la más extricta neutralidad, sin perjuicio de redoblar sus esfuerzos si lo creyere conveniente, para que cesen cuanto antes las hostilidades comenzadas. || Cuando el desacuerdo ó desavenencia ocurriere solamente entre otras de las Repúblicas centro-americanas, las partes contratantes, conjuntamente, ó cada una de por sí, ofrecerán á aquellas su mediación, á fin de obtener la armonía general de Centro-América.

Artículo XV.

Si se suscitare cuestión entre uno de los Gobiernos contratantes y alguna potencia extranjera, el otro ofrecerá sus buenos oficios, excitando á los demás Gobiernos de Centro-América para que por su parte hagan lo mismo, hasta lograr un avenimiento equitativo y satisfactorio. || Este compromiso deberá cumplirse desde que se tenga conocimiento de la cuestión y los correspondientes informes de su naturaleza y circunstancias.

Artículo XVI.

Si por desgracia alguna nación hiciera la guerra á El Salvador ó á Costa Rica, las partes contratantes convienen en no hacer con dicha nación alianza ofensiva, ni prestarle ninguna clase de auxilios; pero esto, no obsta para que puedan pactar entre sí alianzas para la defensa de sus respectivos derechos.

Artículo XVII.

Los salvadoreños ó costarricenses no naturalizados en El Salvador ó Costa Rica, estarán exentos del servicio militar obligatorio, cualquiera que sea, por mar ó tierra, y de todo empréstito forzoso, exacciones ó requerimientos militares; y no se les obligará por ningún motivo á pagar más contribuciones ó tasas ordinarias ó extraordinarias, que aquellas que paguen los naturales.

Artículo XVIII.

Las partes contratantes recibirán en su territorio á los Agentes Diplomáticos y Consulares que una de las Repúblicas tenga á bien acreditar en la otra, acogiéndolos y tratándolos conforme á las prácticas del Derecho Internacional generalmente aceptadas.

Artículo XIX.

Los Agentes Diplomáticos de cada una de las partes contratantes, favorecerán con sus buenos oficios, la justicia que asista á sus nacionales; pero es entendido que en la defensa y resguardo de sus derechos é intereses y en sus reclamaciones y quejas contra la Nación ó los particulares, no podrán emplear más recursos que los que las leyes de cada una de las dos Repúblicas conceden á sus nacionales; debiendo conformarse con la resolución definitiva de los Tribunales de Justicia, sin poder en ningún caso apelar á la via diplomática.

Artículo XX.

Los Gobiernos de El Salvador y Costa Rica, reconocen el principio de que sólo responderán por los daños y perjuicios causados á los natura-

les de una de las partes contratantes en el territorio de la otra, cuando fuesen irrogados por agentes del Gobierno y por autoridades legítimas del país, en cuyo caso los perjudicados deben ser atendidos por las autoridades de la República donde lo han sido, y obtener de ellas la debida justicia, bajo las mismas leyes á que están sujetos los naturales: de tal suerte, que los ciudadanos de una de las Repúblicas contratantes, no puedan ser de mejor condición que los naturales de la otra.

Artículo XXI.

La navegación de los ríos, lagos, lagunas, golfos, bahías ó mares de cualquiera de las Repúblicas contratantes, será libre para todos los ciudadanos de la otra, en los mismos términos y con las mismas limitaciones que para los nacionales. || Las naves mercantes de cualquiera de las partes, se considerarán en los ríos, lagos, mares, costas ó puertos de la otra, como las naves nacionales; tendrán las mismas exenciones, franquicias y concesiones que éstas; y no pagarán otros derechos ni tendrán otros gravámenes que los que paguen y tengan impuestos las embarcaciones del país.

Artículo XXII.

Los Agentes Diplomáticos y Consulares de las Repúblicas contratantes en las ciudades, plazas ó puertos extranjeros, prestarán á las personas, buques y demás propiedades de los ciudadanos de la otra, la misma protección que á las personas, buques y demás propiedades de sus compatriotas, sin exigir por esos servicios otros ó más altos derechos que los acostumbrados respecto de sus nacionales.

Artículo XXIII.

Habrá canje regular de publicaciones oficiales entre ambos países; y si fuese posible, de las que hagan los particulares, y se depositarán en las bibliotecas ó archivos nacionales de cada país.

Artículo XXIV.

En el deseo de fomentar el comercio entre las Repúblicas contratantes, sus respectivos Gobiernos procurarán ponerse de acuerdo para el establecimiento de naves nacionales mercantes, que hagan el comercio de cabotaje, ó para los arreglos de subvenciones que deban acordarse á las compañías de vapores que hagan el tráfico entre San Francisco de California y Panamá.

Artículo XXV.

Los Gobiernos de El Salvador y Costa Rica, deseosos de que no queden impunes los delitos que se cometen en sus respectivos territorios, ni se eluda la responsabilidad criminal con la evasión de los delincuentes, convienen en entregarse recíprocamente los individuos que se refugien en el territorio de cada una de las dos Repúblicas y que en la otra hubiesen sido condenados ó estuviesen procesados por haber cometido en ella, como autores ó cómplices, alguno de los delitos siguientes: homicidio, incendio, robo, piratería, peculado, abigeato, falsificación de moneda, sellos é instrumentos públicos, bonos y documentos de crédito del Estado, billetes de banco ó cualquier otro valor público, estafa, malversación de caudales públicos, quiebra fraudulenta, falso testimonio, y en general cualquier otro delito por el cual pueda procesarse sin necesidad de acusación de parte y que el Código penal común de la nación en que se hubiese cometido, tenga señaladas las penas de muerte, presidio, trabajos forzados ó privación de la libertad por un tiempo que no baje de dos años, aunque la pena de tal delito, sea menor ó distinta en la Nación del refugio.

Artículo XXVI.

La pena de dos años de la privación de la libertad, señala la naturaleza de los delitos que motivan la extradición, cuando ésta se pide durante el enjuiciamiento; pero no limita los efectos del juicio, si por circunstancias atenuantes ú otros esclarecimientos favorables al reo, fuere éste sentenciado á sufrir una pena menor. Si la extradición se pidiese en virtud de sentencia ejecutoriada, el reo será entregado, siempre que la pena impuesta no baje de un año de privación de la libertad.

Artículo XXVII.

No se concederá extradición alguna de personas sentenciadas ó acusadas por delitos políticos, aun cuando resulten cometidos en conexión con algún crimen ó delito que pudiera motivarla. || Al Gobierno de la República del asilo, toca calificar la naturaleza de los delitos políticos. || El individuo entregado, no podrá ser juzgado ni condenado por delitos políticos, ni por hechos relativos á ellos, que hubiere cometido antes de la extradición.

Artículo XXVIII.

No se concederá la extradición, si el reo reclamado, hubiere ya sido juzgado y sentenciado por el mismo hecho en la República donde resida, si en ésta el hecho por que se pide la extradición no fuere considerado

como delito, ó si conforme á las leyes de la República reclamante ó la del asilo, hubiere prescrito la acción ó la pena. Si el individuo reclamado estuviere acusado ó hubiere sido condenado en el país del asilo, por delito cometido en él, no será entregado sino después de haber sido absuelto por sentencia firme, y en caso de condenación, después de haber extinguido la condena ó de haber sido indultado.

Artículo XXIX.

Las partes contratantes, no estarán en la obligación de entregar á sus nacionales; pero deberán enjuiciarlos por las infracciones de la ley penal, cometidas en la otra República; y el Gobierno de ésta última deberá comunicar al de la otra, las diligencias, informaciones y documentos correspondientes y remitirle los objetos que constituyan el cuerpo del delito, suministrando todo lo que conduzca al esclarecimiento necesario para la expedición del proceso; verificado esto, el juicio criminal se continuará y terminará, y el Gobierno del país del juzgamiento informará al otro del estado definitivo de la causa.

Artículo XXX.

La extradición será siempre concedida aun cuando el presunto reo se halle impedido, por esta entrega, de cumplir obligaciones contraídas con personas particulares, á quienes se reserva en todo caso el derecho para ejercitar sus acciones ante la autoridad judicial competente.

Artículo XXXI.

La entrega será hecha siempre bajo la condición de que si la pena del crimen ó delito que motiva la extradición, no es igual en la Nación reclamante y en la del refugio, se impondrá al delincuente la menor y en ningún caso la de muerte.

Artículo XXXII.

Cuando el acusado ó condenado cuya extradición se solicita por una de las partes contratantes, fuese igualmente reclamado por otro ú otros Gobiernos á causa de crímenes ó delitos cometidos en jurisdicción de ellos, por el mismo culpado, éste será entregado de preferencia al Gobierno que primero hubiere hecho la demanda de extradición.

Artículo XXXIII.

La extradición se acordará en virtud de reclamación hecha por uno de los Gobiernos contratantes al del país donde está refugiado el criminal.

Esta reclamación se hará por la vía diplomática, irá acompañada de la sentencia condenatoria, acusación, mandamiento de prisión ó cualquier otro documento equivalente á este mandamiento; y en ella, deberán indicarse, la naturaleza y gravedad de los hechos imputados, las disposiciones penales que les sean aplicables; y se hará constar la prueba ó principio de prueba que por las leyes del Estado reclamante, sea suficiente para justificar la captura y enjuiciamento del inculpado. || En caso de fuga del reo después de estar condenado, y antes de haber sufrido totalmente la pena, la reclamación expresará esta circunstancia, é irá acompañada únicamente de la sentencia.

Artículo XXXIV.

Los gastos que causen el arresto, manutención y trasporte del individuo reclamado, lo mismo que los de entrega y traslación de los objetos que por tener relación con el delito deban restituirse ó remitirse, serán á cargo de la República que solicite la entrega.

Artículo XXXV.

Cada uno de los Gobiernos contratantes se obliga á comunicar al otro las sentencias condenatorias por el crimen ó delito de cualquier naturaleza, pronunciadas por los Tribunales de un Estado, contra ciudadanos del otro. Esta comunicación se hará mediante el envío, por la vía diplomática, de la sentencia pronunciada y ejecutoriada al Gobierno respectivo, para que se desposite en el archivo del territorio competente.

Artículo XXXVI.

El presente Tratado abroga el de diez de diciembre de mil ochocientos cuarenta y cinco, celebrado entre las mismas partes contratantes. Será perpetuo en lo relativo á las estipulaciones sobre paz, amistad y arbitraje; y durará por diez años en todolo demás; pero si ninguna de las partes contratantes lo denunciare antes de la expiración del último año, continuará indefinidamente, hasta un año después que se haga tal denuncia. || El canje de las ratificaciones se hará en esta ciudad ó en San José de Costa Rica, en el término de tres meses después de la última ratificación, ó antes si fuere posible. || En fe de lo cual, los Plenipotenciarios arriba mencionados firman por duplicado y sellan con sus respectivos sellos este Tratado, constante de treinta y seis artículos, en la ciudad de San Salvador, á los doce días del mes de junio de mil ochocientos noventa y cinco.

A. Alvarado. *Jacinto Castellanos.*

Nr. 12983. COLUMBIEN und PERU. — Allgemeiner Freundschafts- und Handelsvertrag.

Bogotá, August 1898.

„La República de Colombia y la República del Perú, deseando arreglar sus relaciones generales de amistad, comercio y navegación por medio de un nuevo Tratado, han nombrado sus Plenipotenciarios, á saber: || „Colombia, al señor D. Antonio Gómez Restrepo, Subsecretario de Relaciones Exteriores, encargado del Despacho; || „Y el Perú, al señor D. J. Enrique Bustamante y Salazar, Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario en Colombia. || „Quienes, habiéndose communicado sus plenos poderes, que hallaron en buena y debida forma, convinieron en los articulos siguientes: || „Articulo I || „La paz y amistad, felizmente mantenidas y cultivadas, desde largo tiempo, entre la República del Perú, serán perpetuamente firmes é inviolables. || „Articulo II || „Los colombianos en el Perú y los peruanos en Colombia gozarán, recíprocamente, de los mismos derechos civiles y garantías que los nacionales, y estarán como éstos, sometidos á las leyes del país, las cuales no podrán hacer diferencia entre unos y otros. || „Articulo III || „Los colombianos transeúntes en el Perú y los peruanos transeúntes en Colombia, estarán exentos de todo servicio militar en el Ejército y Marina y en las guardias ó milicias nacionales; de contribuciones extraordinarias y empréstitos forzosos y requisiciones militares; y, en general, de toda carga ó servicio público, quedando sólo sujetos á pagar los impuestos ordinarios. Tampoco pueden ser detenidos; ni sus naves, tripulaciones y mercaderías estarán snjetas á embargo ó expropiación para expediciones militares, ni para ningún otro objeto público ó particular, sin conceder á los interesados la justa compensación que en cada caso se convenga con ellos. || „Articulo IV || „Los colombianos domiciliados en el Perú y los peruanos domiciliados en Colombia, estarán sujetos á las mismas obligaciones que los naturales. Estas obligaciones no tendrán más limitación que la reconocida por el Derecho de Gentes en el caso de guerra exterior. Toca á las leyes de cada una de las dos Repúblicas. la determinación de los hechos que constituyan el domicilio en su respectivo territorio. || „Articulo V || „Las Repúblicas contratrantes establecen la más amplia libertad de comercio entre sí; en consecuencia, los ciudadanos de la una podrán entrar y residir con sus naves y cargamentos en los puertos habilitados de las costas y territorios de la otra, y hacer en ellos toda especie de comercio permitido á los naturales. || „Exceptúase el comercio de cabotaje, cuyo arreglo especial se reservan las Repúblicas contratantes. || „Articulo VI || „Toda especie de producciones, manufacturas ó mercaderías que en cual-

quier tiempo puedan ser legalmente importadas en cada una de las dos Repúblicas en buques nacionales, podrán serlo también en los de la otra, sin diferencia alguna de derechos. || „Todo lo que pueda ser legalmente exportado ó reexportado de una de las dos Repúblicas, en sus propios buques, para el extranjero, podrá de la misma manera, ser exportado ó reexportado en buques de la otra; y serán concedidos y cobrados iguales premios, derechos y descuentos, bien se haga tal exportación ó reexportación en buques peruanos, bien se haga en buques colombianos. || „Artículo VII || „Los buques de cada una de las dos naciones á su entrada en los puertos de la otra y á su salida de ellos, no estarán sujetos á otros ó más altos derechos de tonelaje, faro, puerto, pilotaje, cuarentena ú otros que afecten al cuerpo del buque, que aquéllos que pagaren en igualdad de casos, los buques nacionales. || „Articulo VIII || „Los ciudadanos de una de las Repúblicas contratantes que se vieren obligados á buscar refugio ó asilo con sus buques en los ríos, puertos ú otros lugares del territorio de la otra, por causa de tempestad, persecución de piratas ó enemigos, avería en el casco ó aparejo, falta de agua, carbón ó provisiones, serán recibidos y tratados con humanidad, dándoles todo favor, auxilio y protección para reparar sus buques, acopiar agua, carbón, víveres y ponerse en estado de continuar su viaje sin obstáculo ni molestia de ningún género, ni pago de derechos de puerto ó cualesquiera otras cargas, á no ser los emolumentos del práctico, y sin exigirles que descarguen toda ó parte de la carga, si no fuere preciso. Si fuere necesario descargar parte de la carga ó toda ella, la que fuere descargada y reembarcada pagará los gastos por el servicio de los almacenes y por el trabajo. || „Cuando se haga preciso vender parte de la carga, únicamente para pagar los gastos de arribo forzado, lo vendido quedará sujeto al pago de los derechos de importación, si por la ley los causare. || „Sin embargo, si un buque después de reparado y en perfecto estado para continuar su viaje, demorare en el puerto más de cuarenta y ocho horas, quedará sujeto al pago de los derechos y demás gastos de puerto; si hiciere alguna transacción mercantil, tanto el buque como los efectos que descargue y los productos que embarque, estarán sujetos á los derechos y demás impuestos establecidos por las leyes y reglamentos, como si el arribo hubiera sido voluntario. || „Articulo IX || „Si algún buque de los de las dos partes contratantes naufragare, sufriere avería ó fuere abandonado en las costas de la otra ó cerca de ellas, se dará á dicho buque y á su tripulación toda la asistencia y protección que fuere posible; y el buque, cualquiera parte de él, todo su aparejo y pertenencias y todos los efectos y mercaderías que se salvaren, ó el producto de ellos si se vendieren, serán

entregados á sus dueños ó agentes debidamente autorizados; y si no hay propietarios ó agentes, serán entregados al Cónsul respectivo, pagando tan sólo los gastos ocasionados por la conservación de la propiedad, ó cualesquiera otros provenientes del salvamento del buque, su cargamento ó tripulación, que se paguen en casos semejantes por buques nacionales. Estos gastos serán por cuenta del dueño del buque. || „Se admitirá, en los casos de naufragio ó avería, descargar, si fuere necesario, las mercaderías ó efectos que se hallaren á bordo, sin exigir por esto derecho alguno, á no ser que se destinen á la venta. || „Articulo X || „Los buques, mercaderías y efectos pertenecientes á ciudadanos de una de las Repúblicas contratantes, que fueren apresados por piratas, bien en alta mar, ó dentro de los límites de su jurisdicción, y fueren llevados ó encontrados en los ríos, radas, bahías, puertos ó territorios de la otra, serán entregados á los dueños ó á sus agentes, probado que sea su derecho ante les Tribunales competentes. La reclamación deberá hacerse dentro del término de un año por los mismos interesados, sus agentes ó los de los respectivos Gobiernos. || „Articulo XI || „Las estipulaciones de este Tratado, relativas al comercio, son aplicables á los buques colombianos y peruanos, sea que procedan de los puertos del país á que pertenezcan respectivamente, sea que procedan de los de otro país extranjero. || „Serán considerados como buques colombianos en el Perú, y viceversa, como peruanos en Columbia, los que neveguen bajo la respectiva bandera y estén provistos de los papeles de á bordo y de los demás documentos exigidos por la legislación de los Estados respectivos, para justificar la nacionalidad de los buques mercantes. || „Articulo XII || „Los buques de gurra de una de las dos Repúblicas serán admitidos y tratados en los puertos de la otra, como los de la nación más favorecida. || „Articulo XIII || „Convienen las dos partes contratantes en reconocer los siguientes principios, en caso de guerra de alguna de ellas con una nación extraña: „1.° Las naves de aquella de las dos pärtes contratantes que permanezca neutral, podrán navegar libremente de los puertos y lugares enemigos á otros neutrales, ó de un puerto ó lugar neutral á otro enemigo, ó de un puerto ó lugar enemigo á otro igualmente enemigo, exceptuando los puertos ó lugares bloqueados; y será libre en todos estos casos cualquiera propiedad que vaya á bordo de tales naves, sea quien fuere el dueño, exceptuando el contrabando de guerra; y será libre, igualmente, toda persona á bordo del buque neutral, aunque sea ciudadano de la nación enemiga, siempre que no esté en actual servicio del gobierno enemigo ó destinado á él; || „2.° Las personas y las propiedades de los ciudadanos de aquélla de las dos partes contratantes que permanezca neutral en caso de guerra de la

otra, serán libres de toda detención y confiscación, aun cuando se encuentren á bordo de una nave enemiga, salvo si las personas se hallaren en servicio del enemigo ó destinadas á él, ó si la propiedad fuere contrabando de guerra; || „3.° Las estipulaciones contenidas en este artículo, declarando que el pabellón cubra la propiedad y las personas, se aplicarán á aquellas potencias que reconocen este principio y no á otras. || „Articulo XIV || „Se reputan como artículos de contrabando, cuya conducción y comercio quedan prohibidos en caso de guerra, los siguientce: || „1.° Cañones, morteros, obuses, pedreros, trabucos, mosquetes, fusiles, rifles, carabinas, pistolas, picas, espadas, sables, lanzas, chuzos, alabardas, granadas y bombas; pólvora, dinamita y las demás sustancias explosivas que sean reconocidas como de uso para los efectos de la guerra; mechas, balas, torpedos, con las demás cosas correspondientes al uso de estas armas; || „2.° Escudos, casquetes, corazas, cotas de malla, fornituras y uniformes militares; || „3.° Bandoleras y caballos, junto con sus arneses; || 4.° Las máquinas de vapor, combustibles y todo lo anexo á ellas, destinadas al uso de las naves de guerra; y en general, toda especie de armas de hierro, acero, cobre, bronce y cualesquiera otras materias manufacturadas, preparadas ó formadas para hacer la guerra por mar ó por tierra. || „Articulo XV || „Los artículos de contrabando de guerra antes enumerados y clasificados, que se hallen en un buque destinado á puerto enemigo, estarán sujetos á detención y confiscación, pero el resto del cargamento y el buque se dejarán libres para que los dueños puedan disponer de ellos, según lo estimen conveniente. || „Articulo XVI || „Ninguna nave de cualquiera de las partes contratantes será detenida en alta mar por tener á su bordo artículos de contrabando, siempre que el Capitán ó Sobrecargo de dicha nave quiera entregar los artículos de contrabando al apresador; á menos que esos artículos sean tan numerosos ó de tan gran volumen, que no puedan, sin grave inconveniente, recibirse á bordo del buque apresador; pero en éste y todos los demás casos de justa detención el buque detenido será enviado al puerto más inmediato, cómodo y seguro para ser allí juzgado con arreglo á las leyes. || „Articulo XVII || „Cuando algún buque navegue hacia un puerto ó lugar enemigo, sin saber que se halla sitiado ó bloqueado, pue de ser rechazado de tal puerto ó lugar, pero se le permitirá ir á cualquiera otro puerto ó lugar que juzgue oportuno el Capitán ó Sobrecargo, y no será detenido, ni confiscada parte alguna de su cargamento que no sea contrabando, á menos que intentare entrar después de notificársele el bloqueo ó ataque por el Comandante de las fuerzas bloqueadoras. No se impedirá á buque alguno que hubiere entrado en un puerto, antes de hallarse éste bloqueado ó atacado, salir

de él con su cargamento; y siendo hallado allí después de la rendición ó entrega del lugar, no estará sujeto tal buque ó su cargamento á confiscación ó demanda alguna, sino que se dejará á los dueños en tranquila posesión de su propiedad. || „Articulo XVIII || „Con el objeto de prevenir desórdenes en la visita y reconocimiento de los buques mercantes y sus cargamentos, en alta mar, se estipula: que siempre que un buque de guerra de una de las partes contratantes se encontrare con uno neutral de la otra, el primero permanecerá fuera de tiro de cañón, salvo el caso de mala mar, y enviará un bote con dos ó tres hombres solamente, para verificar dicho reconocimiento de los documentos concernientes á la propiedad y cargó del buque; sin ocasionar la menor extorsión, violencia a maltrato, de lo cual será responsable con su persona y bienes el Capitán del buque armado. || „En ningún caso se exigirá de la parte neutral que vaya á bordo del buque reconocedor, con el fin de exhibir sus documentos, ni para cualquier otro objeto. || „Articulo XIX || „Si una de las dos partes contratantes estuviere en guerra, los buques de la otra deberán proveerse de patente de navegación ó pasaportes, en que se expresen el nombre y naturaleza del dueño del buque, el nombre y capacidad de éste y el nombre y residencia del Capitán, á fin de que se compruebe que el buque 'pertenece real y verdaderamente á ciudadanos de la otra Parc. Estando cargados los expresados buques, llevarán, además de la patente de navegación ó pasaporte, manifiestos ó certificados que contengan los pormenores del cargamento y el lugar donde fue embarcado, para que pueda saberse si hay á bordo efectos de contrabando. Estos certificados serán expedidos, en la forma acostumbrada, por las Oficinas de Aduana, ó las autoridades del puerto de donde saliere el buque, sin cuyo requisito el expresado buque puede ser detenido para ser adjudicados, él ó su cargamento, por los tribunales competentes, á menos que se pruebe que la falta proviene de algún accidente, ó se subsane aquélla con testimonios del todo equivalentes, en la opinión de los susodichos tribunales. || „Articulo XX || „Las anteriores estipulaciones relativas á la visita y reconocimiento de los buques, se aplicarán solamente á aquéllos que naveguen fuera de convoy; y cuando los dichos buques vayan en convoy, será suficiente la declaración verbal del Comandante de éste, por su palabra de honor, de que los buques que están bajo su protección pertenecen á la nación cuya bandera llevan. En caso de que los buques se dirijan á un puerto enemigo, declarará además el Comandante, que dichos buques no tienen á su bordo artículo de contrabando de guerra. || „Articulo XXI || „Las causas de presas serán decididas por los tribunales establecidos al efecto por las leyes de las respectivas Repúblicas, y dichos tribunales

serán los únicos que tomen conocimiento de ellas. Siempre que tales tribunales de una y otra parte pronunciaren sentencia sobre algún buque, efecto ó propiedad reclamados por ciudadanos de la otra parte, la sentencia ó decisión mencionará las razones ó motivos en que se ha fundado; y se entregará al Comandante ó agente de dicho buque ó propiedad, sin excusa ó demora alguna, si lo solicitare, un testimonio auténtico de la sentencia ó decisión, ó de todo el proceso, con tal de que se satisfagan los derechos legales; || „Articulo XXII || „El Gobierno del Perú, reconociendo la amplia libertad de que gozan los pasajeros y mercancías en el Istmo de Panamá, no exigirá del Gobierno colombiano el cumplimiento de otras obligaciones tocantes á neutralidad, en caso de guerra entre el Perú y terceras naciones, sino el de aquéllas que están terminante y claramente establecidas por los principios y prácticas universales, y que sean compatibles con la falta de Aduanas y oficinas de registro en los puertos del referido Istmo. || „Por lo tanto, respecto del despacho de armas y municiones de guerra, el Gobierno del Perú podrá únicamente exigir de las autoridades colombianas que impidan el embarque de cargamentos de esos artículos en buques de guerra del otro beligerante; entendiéndose que las autoridades colombianas deben ser oportunamente avisadas y requeridas para cumplir este deber, como igualmente que ellas sólo quedan obligadas á desplegar la vigilancia ordinaria para impedir el referido despacho; || „Por lo demás, tratándose de artículos de lícito comercio, como son los víveres y demás mercaderías que no sean destinadas á usos bélicos, el comercio no experimentará ninguna prohibición, pudiendo vender dichos artículos á las naves mercantes y aun á las de guerra de uno y otro beligerante. || „Acorca del carbón, se estipula expresamente que no podrá venderse á buques de guerra, sino cuando éstos se hallen exhaustos de tal artículo, y sólo en la cantidad indispensable para llegar al puerto extranjero más cercano que se encuentre en su rumbo. || „En cuanto al tiempo que los buques de guerra puedan permanecer en aguas colombianas, el Gobierno de Colombia se obliga á no permitirles la estadía sino por el plazo necesario para obtener provisiones, pero no para ejecutar ninguna operación que viole la neutralidad del país. || „Las reglas de este artículo las adoptará Colombia en los demás tratados ó arreglos que celebre sobre la materia con otras naciones. || „Articulo XXIII || „Deseando las dos partes contratantes evitar toda desigualdad en lo concerniente á sus relaciones oficiales internacionales, convienen en conceder á sus Enviados, Ministros y Agentes públicos, los mismos favores, inmunidades y exenciones de que gozan ó gozaren los de las naciones más favorecidas; y queda entendidoy estipulado, que cualesquiera favores,

inmunidades ó privilegios que Colombia ó el Perú tengan por conveniente otorgar á los Enviados, Ministros y Agentes Diplomáticos de otras naciones, se harán por el mismo hecho, extensivos á los de una ú otro de las partes contratantes. || „Artículo XXIV || „El reo de delitos cumunes que se asilare en la Legación de una de las partes contratantes, deberá ser entregado por el jefe de ella á las autoridades locales, previa gestión del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, cuando no lo efectuare espontáneamente. || „Dicho asilo será respetado con relación á los preseguidos por delitos políticos; pero el jefe de la Legación está obligado á poner inmediatamente el hecho en conocimiento del Gobierno del Estado, ante el cual está acreditado, quien podrá exigir que el perseguido sea puesto fuera del territorio nacional, dentro del más breve plazo posible. || „El jefe de la Legación podrá exigir, á su vez, las garantías necesarias para que el refugiado salga del territorio nacional, respetándose la inviolabilidad de su persona. || El mismo principio se observará con respecto á los asilados en los buques de guerra surtos en aguas territoriales. || „Artículo XXV || „Como consecuencia del principio de igualdad establecido, en virtud del cual los ciudadanos de cada una de las Repúblicas Contratantes gozan en el territorio de la otra, de los mismos derechos que los naturales, se declara que los daños causados por los sublevados en tiempo de insurrección ó de guerra civil, ó por las tribus salvajes sustraídas á la obediencia del respectivo Gobierno ó por individuos particulares y, en general, por casos fortuitos de cualquiera especie, no darán derecho á indemnizaciones especiales; estando sólo obligados los Gobiernos de las dos Repúblicas á conceder á los naturales de la otra la misma protección en sus personas y propiedades que las leyes conceden á sus propios ciudadanos. Solamente cuando esta protección no sea dada, bien porque se desatiendan las gestiones intentadas ó porque se las resuelva con manifiesta injusticia, y después de agotados los recursos legales, habrá lugar à la intervención diplomática. || „Artículo XXVI || „Los Agentes Diplomáticos de una de las dos Repúblicas, en países extranjeros donde no existan Agentes de la otra, harán toda clase de gestiones, permitidas por el Derecho Internacional, para proteger los intereses y las personas de los ciudadanos de esta República, en los mismos términos en que deben hacerlo respecto de los ciudadanos de su propio país, siempre que su intervención sea solicitada por la parte interesada y admitida por el Gobierno cerca del cual residen. || „Artículo XXVII || „Las Repúblicas Contratantes, deseando mantener tan firmes y duraderas sus relaciones amistosas, cuanto lo permita la previsión humana, convienen en que, si uno ó más ciudadanos de una de las dos partes contratantes infringieren cualquiera de los artí-

culos de este Tratado, ó alguna ó algunas de las estipulaciones existentes entre los dos países, el infractor ó infractores serán personalmente responsables, sin que por ello se turben ó interrumpan la buena armonía y correspondencia entre las dos Repúblicas, comprometiéndose cada una de ellas á no proteger de modo alguno á los infractores, ni menos autorizar en ningún sentido semejantes infracciones. || „Articulo XXVIII || Las partes contratantes se reservan el derecho de no admitir y el de expulsar, con arreglo á sus leyes respectivas, á los ciudadanos que por su mala vida ó conducta política, debidamente comprobada, fueren considerados perniciosos. || „Articulo XXIX || „Deseando las dos Repúblicas evitar el tráfico indebido de indígenas en las regiones del Oriente, se obligan respectivamente á no permitir que dichos indígenas sean arrebatados y conducidos del territorio de la República de Colombia á la del Perú, o recíprocamente; y los que fueren arrebatados de este modo violento, serán restituídos por las respectivas autoridades locales luégo que sean reclamados. || „Articulo XXX || „Las dos Repúblicas convienen en que, si desgraciadamente llegaren á interrumpirse las relaciones de amistad entre ellas, no apelarán á las armas antes de agotar las vías de negociación y en tanto que no se haya perdido la esperanza de obtener por éstas la satisfacción debida. || „Cuando ocurriere aquel caso, el Gobierno que se crea agraviado, después que haya hecho valer las razones que le asistan y solicitado inútilmente una justa avenencia, consignará en un manifiesto los fundamentos de su queja y lo presentará en el Despacho de Relaciones Exteriores del Gobierno á quien se impute la ofensa, anunciando la intención de someter la cuestión á la decisión de un tercero, elegido de entre los cinco Gobiernos que al efecto designare previamente, si antes de seis meses, contados desde el día en que su manifiesto haya sido presentado, no se han dado explicaciones satisfactorias sobre el punto ó puntos que fueren motivo de la queja. || „El Gobierno á quien se impute la ofensa, debe contestar dentro de dichos seis meses, y terminará su exposición designando, por su parte, uno de los cinco Gobiernos propuestos, para que sirva de árbitro. || „Si el Gobierno ofendido no se diere por satisfecho con las explicaciones del otro, ambos se dirigirán al designado por árbitro, sometiéndole, con las piezas justificativas necesarias, la materia sobre que deba recaer la decisión. || Si el Gobierno acusado eludiere la propuesta de arbitramento ó el nombramiento de árbitro, éste se elegirá por el actor de entre los cinco Gobiernos que designó primitivamente. || En general, en todos los casos de controversia en que no puedan avenirse las dos partes contratantes por medio de la vía diplomática, ocurrirán á la decisión de un árbitro para arreglar pacífica y

definitivamente sus diferencias; y no podrá ninguna de ellas declarar la guerra ni autorizar actos de repesalia contra la otra, sino en el caso de que ésta rehuse someterese á la decisión arbitral de un Gobierno amigo, ó cumplir la sentencia dada por éste. || „Articulo XXXI || „En el desgraciado evento de guerra entre las dos Repúblicas, con el fin de disminuír los males de ella, se estipula lo siguiente: || „1.° Rotas las hostilidades, los comerciantes, traficantes y otros ciudadanos de todas profesiones de cualquiera de las partes, que residan en las ciudades, puertos ó territorios de la otra, tendrán el privilegio de permanecer allí y de continuar su comercio y negocios, en tanto que se conduzcan pacíficamente y no cometan ofensa alguna contra las leyes. Y en caso de que su conducta los hiciere sospechosos, y los respectivos Gobiernos juzgaren oportuno mandarlos salir del país, se les concederá el término de doce meses, contados desde la publicación ó intimación de la orden, para que en él puedan arreglar y ordenar sus negocios y retirarse con sus familias, efectos y propiedades; á cuyo fin se les dará el necesario salvo-conducto; pero esto favor no se extenderá á aquellos que obraren de un modo contrario à las leyes; „2.° En el caso de hostilidades, éstas sólo se llevarán á efecto por las personas debidamente autorizadas por el Gobierno, y por las tropas que estuvieren á sus órdenes, exceptuando los casos de repeler un ataque ó invasión repentina, ó en defensa de la propiedad; || „3.° Se respetará la propiedad privada y las personas de los respectivos ciudadanos, tanto en mar como en tierra, no pudiendo aquélla ser confiscada ni éstos detenidos, salvo siempre los artículos de contrabando de guerra y las personas en servicio del enemigo ó destinadas á él; || „4. °Las deudas contraídas por los individuos de una de las dos Repúblicas en favor de individuos de la otra, y las acciones ó cantidades que puedan tener en los fondos públicos ó en los bancos públicos ó particulares, no serán confiscados ó secuestrados en caso de guerra ó desavenencia entre las dos Repúblicas; || „5. ° Los hospitales ó ambulancias militares de heridos, la Intendencia y el servicio de sanidad, de administración y de transporte de heridos, así como los médicos, cirujanos y capellanes, son neutrales, y, como tales, gozarán de especiales consideraciones de parte de los beligerantes, mientras desempeñen sus funciones. Concluídas éstas, podrán las indicadas personas retirarse al campamento á que pertenezcan. Es entendido que no se reconocerá la neutralidad de los hospitales ó ambulancias custodiados por una fuerza militar superior á la estrictamente necesaria para guardarlos de ataques de individuos particulares: || „6. ° No sera lícito bombardear una ciudad sino cuando fuere imposible de otro modo reducir una plaza importante cuya ocupación sea indispensable

para el éxito de la guerra; ni incendiar ni entregar á saqueo las poblaciones, ni talar los campos, ni atentar contra la vida de los rendidos, ni de los ciudadanos pacíficos: y, en general, se observarán en todos los incidentes de la guerra, las doctrinas y los usos más humanitarios, enseñados y practicados por las naciones cristianas. ‖ „Articulo XXXII ‖ „El presente Tratado será perpetuo en cuanto á la estipulación de su artículo 1.°; y en cuanto á lo demás, durará diez años contados desde el día en que las ratificaciones sean canjeadas; pero si ninguna de las partes anunciare á la otra por una declaración oficial, un año antes de la expiración de este plazo, su intención de hacerlo terminar, continuará siendo obligatorio para ambas, hasta un año después de cualquier día en que se haga tal notificación por una de ellas. ‖ „Articulo XXXIII ‖ „Este Tratado será ratificado por el Poder Ejecutivo de cada una de las dos Repúblicas, previa su aprobación por los respectivos Congresos; y las ratificaciones serán canjeadas en Bogotá ó en Lima dentro del más breve término posible. ‖ „En fe de lo cual, nosotros los Plenipotenciarios de la una y de la otro República, lo hemos firmado y sellado con unestros sellos particulsres en Bogotá, á seis de Agosto de mil ochocientos noventa y ocho.

„(Firmado). (L. S.) Antonio Gomez Restrepo.
„(Firmado). (L. S.) Bustamante y Salazar.

Nr. 12984. **ARGENTINIEN und URUGUAY.** — Schiedsgerichtsvertrag.

Buenos Aires, 8. Juni 1899.

Los Gobiernos de la República Argentina y de la República Oriental del Uruguay animados del común deseo de solucionar por medios amistosos cualquier cuestión que pudiera suscitarse entre ambos países, han resuelto celebrar un tratado general de arbitraje á cuyo efecto nombran como sus Plenipotenciarios, á saber: ‖ El Excmo. señor Presidente de la República Argentina á su Ministro Secretario en el Departamento de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto, Doctor don Amancio Alcorta; y ‖ El Excmo. señor Presidente de la República Oriental del Uruguay á su Enviado Extraordinario v Ministro Plenipotenciario en la Reqública Argentina, Doctor don Gonzalo Ramírez, ‖ Quienes, una vez comunicados sus Plenos Poderes que fueron hallado sen buena y debida forma, convinieron en los artículos siguientes: ‖ Art. 1° Las Altas Partes Contratantes se obligan á someter á juicio arbitral, todas las controversias, de cualquier naturaleza, que por cualquier causa surgieren entre ellas, en cuanto no afecten á los preceptos de la Constitución de uno ú otro país y siempre que no puedan ser

solucionadas mediante negociaciones directas. || Art. 2° No pueden renovarse, en virtud de este tratado, las cuestiones que hayan sido objeto de arreglos definitivos entre las partes. En tales casos, el arbitraje se limitará exclusivamente á las cuestiones que se susciten sobre validez, interpretación y cumplimiento de dichos arreglos. || Art. 3° En cada caso ocurrente se constituirá el Tribunal arbitral que deba resolver la controversia suscitada. || Si no hubiera conformidad en la constitución del Tribunal, éste se compondrá de tres jueces. Cada Estado nombrará un Arbitro y éstos designarán el tercero. Si no pudiesen ponerse de acuerdo sobre esa designación, la hará el Jefe de un tercer Estado que indicarán los árbitros nombrados por las partes. No poniéndose de acuerdo para este último nombramiento, se solicitará su designación del Presidente de la República Francesa. El Arbitro así elegido será de derecho Presidente del Tribunal. || No podrá nombrarse Arbitro tercero á la persona que en ese carácter haya sentenciado ya en un juicio arbitral, con arreglo á este tratado. || Art. 4° Ninguno de los Arbitros podrá ser ciudadano de los Estados Contratantes, ni domiciliado en su territorio. Tampoco podrá tener interés en las cuestiones que sean objeto del arbitraje. || Art. 5° En caso de no aceptación, renuncia ó impedimento sobreviniente de uno ó más de los Arbitros, se proveerá á su substitución por el mismo procedimiento adeptado para su nombramiento. || Art. 6° Los puntos comprometidos se fijarán por los Estados Contratantes que podrán también determinar la amplitud de los poderes de los árbitros y cualquier otra circunstancia relativa al procedimiento. || Art. 7° En defecto de estipulaciones especiales entre las partes, corresponde al Tribunal designar la época y el lugar de sus sesiones fuera del territorio de los Estados Contratantes, elegir el idioma que deberá emplearse, determinar los métodos de substanciacion, las formalidades y términos que se prescribirán á las partes, los procedimientos á seguirse, y en general, tomar todas las medidas que sean necesarias para su propio funcionamiento y resolver todas las dificultades procesales que pudiesen surgir en el curso del debate. || Los compromitentes se obligan á poner á disposición de los árbitros todos los medios de información que de ellos dependan. || Art. 8° Cada una de las partes podrá constituír uno ó más mandatarios que la representen ante el Tribunal Arbitral. || Art. 9° El Tribunal es competente para decidir sobre la regularidad de su propia constitución, validez del compromiso y su interpretación. Lo es igualmente para resolver las controversias que surjan entre los compromitentes sobre si determinadas cuestiones han sido ó no puntos sometidos á la jurisdicción arbitral, en la escritura de compromiso. || Art. 10. El Tribunal deberá decidir de

acuerdo con los principios del Derecho Internacional, á menos que el compromiso imponga la aplicación de reglas especiales ó autorice á los árbitros á decidir como amigables componedores. || Art. 11. No podrá formarse Tribunal sin la concurrencia de los tres árbitros. En el caso que la minoria. debidamente citada, no quisiese asistir á las deliberaciones ó á otros actos del proceso, se formará Tribunal con sólo la mayoría de los árbitros, haciéndose constar la inasistencia voluntaria é injustificada de la minoría. || Se tendrá como sentencia lo que resuelva la mayoria de los árbitros, pero si el árbitro tercero no aceptase el parecer de ninguno de los Arbitros nombrados por las partes, su dictámen será cosa juzgada. || Art. 12. La sentencia deberá decidír definitivamente cada punto en litigio y con expresión de sus fundamentos. || Será redactada en doble original y firmada por todos los árbitros. Si alguno de ellos se negase á susberibirla, los otros deberán hacer mención en acta especial de esta circunstancia y la sentencia producirá efecto siempre que esté firmada por la mayoría de los árbitros. El árbitro en disidencia se limitará á hacer constar su discordia en el acto de firmar la sentencia y sin expresión de sus fundamentos. || Art. 13. La sentencia deberá ser notificada á cada una de las partes por medio de su representante ante el Tribunal. || Art. 14. La sentencia legalmente pronunciada decide dentro de los límites de su alcance la contienda entre las partes. || Art. 15. El Tribunal establecerá en la sentencia el plazo dentro del cual debe ser ejecutada siendo competente para decidír las cuestiones que pueden surgir con motivo de la ejecución de la misma. || Art. 16. La sentencia es inapelable y su cumplimiento está confiado al honor de las naciones signatarias de este pacto. || Sin embargo, se admitirá el recurso de revisión ante el mismo Tribunal, que la pronunció, siempre que se deduzca antes de vencido el plazo señalado para su ejeción, en los siguientes casos: || 1° Si se ha dictado sentencia en virtud de un documento falso ó adulterado. || 2° Si la sentencia ha sido en todo ó en parte la consecuencia de un error de hecho, que resulte de las actuaciones ó documentos de la causa. || Art. 17. Cada una de las partes pagará los gastos propios y la mitad de los gastos generales del Tribunal Arbitral. || Art. 18. El presente tratado estará en vigor durante diez años, á contar desde el canje de las ratificaciones. Si no fuese denunciado seis meses antes de su vencimiento, se tendrá por renovado por otro periodo de diez años y asi sucesivamente. || El presente tratado será ratificado y canjeadas sus ratificaciones en Buenos Aires, dentro de seis meses de su fecha. || En fe de lo cual, los Plenipotenciarios de la República Argentina y de la República Oriental del Uruguay, firmaron y sellaron con sus respectivos sellos. y por duplicado, el presente

Tratado, en la Ciudad de Buenos Aires, á los ocho días del mes de Junio del año de mil ochocientos noventa y nueve.

(L. S.) Amancio Alcorta.
(L. S.) Gonzalo Ramirez.

Nr. 12985. ÖSTERREICH-UNGARN und MEXIKO. — Handelsabkommen.

Mexiko 17. September 1901.

Les soussignés, dûment autorisés à cet affet, sont tombés d'accord que les citoyens mexicains en Autriche et en Hongrie et réciproquement les sujets autrichiens et hongrois au Mexique jouiront du traitement de la nation la plus favorisée tant pour l'importation, l'exportation, le transit et, en général, tout ce qui à trait aux opérations commerciales et à la navigation, ainsi que pour l'exercice du commerce ou des industries et pour le paiement des taxes qui s'y rapportent. || Le traitement sur le pied de la nation la plus favorisée est également garanti de part et d'autre quant à l'admission de fonctionnaires consulaires et aux prérogatives et immunités qui leur reviennent; il en sera de même des droits qui se rattachent à l'exercice de leurs fonctions en général et particulièrement en matière des successions. || Le présent arrangement sera valable pour la durée de six mois à partir du jour de la signature. Dans le cas où aucune des Parties n'aurait notifié avant l'échéance du susdit terme son intention d'en faire cesser les effets, le dit arrangement demeurera obligatoire jusqu'à l'expiration de six mois à partir du jour ou l'une ou l'autre des Parties l'aura dénoncé. || Fait à Mexico, en doublé original, chacun en deux langues, le dix-sept Septembre mil neuf-cent-un.

(L. S.) (signé) G. Hohenwart.
(L. S.) (signé) Ignacio Mariscal.

Nr. 12986. MEXIKO und SPANIEN. — Schiedsgerichtsvertrag.

Mexiko, 11. Januar 1902.

„El Presidente de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos y Su Majestad el Rey de España, y en su nombre Su Majestad la Reina Regente del Reino, con el propósito de resolver pacíficamente toda cuestión que pudiera alterar las relaciones de bue na amistad que felizmente existen entre ambas naciones, han resuelto celebrar un Tratado de Arbitraje, y para este fin han nombrado sus Plenipotenciarios respectivos: || „El Presidente de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos al Señor Licenciado Don Ignacio Mariscal,

Secretario de Estado y del Despacho de Relaciones Exteriores; y || „Su Majestad el Rey de España, y en su nombre Su Majestad la Reina Regente del Reino, á Don Pedro de Prat, Marqués de Prat de Nantouillet, Su Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipontenciario en México. || „Quienes, después de haber examinado sus plenos poderes respectivos y de haberlos encontrado en buena y debida forma, han acordado lo siguiente:

Artículo I.

„Las Altas Partes Signatarias se compremeten á someter al juicio de Arbitros todas las controversias que puedan surgir entre ellas en el período de existencia del presente Tratado, y para las cuales no se hubiere podido lograr una solución amistosa, por negociaciones directas, siempre que á juicio de ambas Naciones Contratantes dichas controversias no afecten ni á la independencia ni al honor nacional.

Artículo II.

"No se considerarán comprometidos ni la independencia ni el honor nacional en los siguientes casos: || „A. Cuando se trate de daños y perjuicios pecuniarios sufridos por uno de los Estados Contratantes, ó por sus nacionales, por razón de actos ilegales ú omisiones de otro Estado Contratante ó de sus nacionales. || B. Cuando se tráte de la interpretación y aplicación de los tratados, convenios y convenciones sobre protección de propiedad artística, literaria é industrial, así como so re privilegios, patentes de invención, marcas de fábrica, firmas comerciales, moneda, pesos y medidas, precauciones sanitarias, veterinarias ó para evitar la filoxera. || „C. Cuando se trate de la interpretación y aplicación de tratados, convenios y convenciones sobre sucesiones, ayuda y correspondencia judicial. || „D. Cuando se trate de tratados, convenios y convenciones en vigor, ó que en lo futuro se celebren para poner en práctica principios de Derecho Internacional Público ó Privado ya del orden civil ó del penal. || „E. Cuando se trate de cuestiones que se refieran á la interpretación ó ejecución de los tratados, convenios y convenciones de amistad, comercio y navegación.

Artículo III.

"Para la decisión de las cuestiones que en cumplimiento de este Tratado se sometieren á arbitraje, las funciones de Arbitros serán encomendadas con preferencia á un Jefe de Estado de una de las Repúblicas Hispano-Americanas ó á un Tribunal formado por Jueces y Peritos mexicanos, españoles ó hispano-americanos. || „En caso de no recaer acuerdo sobre la designación de Arbitros, las Altas Partes Signatarias se some-

terán al Tribunal Internacional Permanente de Arbitraje, establecido conforme á las resoluciones de la Cenferencia de El Haya de 1899, sejetándose en éste y en el anterior caso á los procedimientos arbitrales especificados en el Capítulo III de dichas resoluciones.

Artículo IV.

"El presente Tratado permanecerá en vigor durante diez años, contados desde la fecha del canje de sus ratificaciones. || „En caso de que, doce meses antes de cumplirse dicho término, ninguna de las Altas Partes Contratantes hubiere declarado su intención de hacer cesar los efectos del presente Tratado, continuará siendo éste obligatorio hasta un año después de que una ú otra de las Altas Partes Signatarias lo hubiere denunciado. || „Este Tratado se ratificará y las ratificaciones se canjearán en México á la mayor brevedad posible. || „En fe de lo cual los Plenipotenciarios lo han firmado y sellado, en dos ejemplares, en México, á los once días del mes de Enero del año mil novecientos dos. || „L. S. — Firmado. — Ignacio Mariscal. || „L.S. — Firmado. — El Marqués de Prat de Nantouillet. || Que el precedente Tratado se aprobó por la Cámara de Senadores de los Estados Unidos Mexicanos el día diez del corriente Abril. || „Que fué ratificado por mí el día catorce del mismo. || „Que Su Majestad la Reina de España aprobó y ratificó el diez de Marzo próximo anterior el repitido Tratado; y || „Que las ratificaciones fueron canjeadas el día catorce del corriente."

Nr. 12987. COSTA RICA, SALVADOR, HONDURAS, NICARAGUA. — Schiedsgerichtsvertrag.

Corinto, 20. Januar 1902.

Los Gobiernos de Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras y Nicaragua, deseando contribuir por todos los medios que estén á su alcance al mantenimiento de la paz y buena armonía que existen y deben existir entre ellos, han convenido en celebrar una convención de paz y arbitraje obligatorio; y al efecto han nombrado por sus respectivos Plenipotenciarios: || El Gobierno de Costa Rica, al Excelentísimo señor Licenciado don Leonidas Pacheco, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores; || El Gobierno de El Salvador, al Excelentísimo señor Doctor don Salvador Rodríguez, Subsecretario de Estado en el despacho de Relaciones Exteriores; || El Gobierno de Honduras, al Excelentísimo señor Doctor don César Bonilla, Ministro de Relaciones Exteriores; || El Gobierno de Nicaragua, al Excelentísimo señor Doctor don Fernando Sánchez, Ministro de Relaciones

Exteriores; || Quienes después de haberse comunicado sus plenos poderes y habiéndolos encontrado en buena y debida forma, han convenido en las siguientes estipulaciones:

Artículo I.

Se declara que la presente Convención tiene por objeto incorporar, en la forma de Tratado Público, las conclusiones á que han llegado los Excelentísimos señores Presidentes don Rafael Iglesias, General don Tomás Regalado, General don Terencio Sierra y General don José Santos Zelaya, en las varias conferencias que han celebrado en este puerto, con el único objeto de mantener y asegurar, por todos los medios posibles, la paz de Centro América.

Artículo II.

Los Gobiernos contratantes establecen el principio del Arbitraje obligatorio para dirimir toda dificultad ó cuestión que pudiera presentarse entre las partes contratantes, comprometiéndose, en consecuencia, á someterlas á un Tribunal de Arbitros Centroamericano.

Artículo III.

Cada una de las partes contratantes nombrará un Arbitro proprietario y un suplente para constituir el Tribunal. || El cargo de los Arbitros durará un año, contado desde su aceptación, pudiendo éstos ser reelectos.

Artículo IV.

Los Arbitros de los Estados entre los cuales existiere el conflicto, no formarán parte del Tribunal para el conocimiento del caso concreto, quedando éste integrado con el Arbitro ó Arbitros de los demás Estados.

Artículo V.

Si por razón de empate no hubiere laudo, el Tribunal sorteará un tercero entre los respectivos suplentes. El tercero deberá necesariamente adherirse á uno de los pareceres emitidos.

Artículo VI.

Tan pronto como se presente una dificultad ó cuestión entre dos ó más Estados, sus respectivos Gobiernos lo comunicarán á los demás signitarios de la presente Convención.

Artículo VII.

Se establece y reconoce por los Gobiernos contratantes la facultad de cada uno de ellos, de ofrecer sin demora, aislada ó conjuntamente, sus

buenos oficios á los Gobiernos de los Estados que se encuentren en desacuerdo, aun sin previa aceptación de éstos, y aunque no se les hubiere notificado la dificultad ó cuestión pendiente.

Artículo VIII.

Agotados los oficios amistosos sin resultado satisfactorio, el Gobierno ó Gobiernos que los hubieren ejercido, lo notificarán á los demás, declarando, al propio tiempo, procedente el arbitramento. Esta declaración se comunicará, á la mayor brevedad posible, al miembro del Tribunal á quien corresponda la Presidencia del mismo, á fin de que en un término que no exceda de quince días, reúna el Tribunal que debe conocer y resolver el conflicto. || La instalación del Tribunal se comunicará por telégrafo á los Gobiernos signatarios, requiriendo á las partes contendientes para que presenten sus alegatos en los quince días siguientes.

Artículo IX.

El Tribunal dictará su laudo dentro de los cinco días siguientes á la expiración del término de que se ha hablado.

Artículo X.

Las dificultades que puedan surgir por cuestiones de límites pendientes ó por interpretación ó ejecución de Tratados de límites, podrán ser sometidos por los Gobiernos interesados al canocimiento y resolución de un Arbitro extranjero, de nacionalidad americana.

Artículo XI.

Los Gobiernos de los Estados en disputa se comprometen solemnemente á no ejecutar acto alguno de hostilidades, aprestos bélicos ó movilización de fuerzas, á fin de no impedir el arreglo de la dificultad ó cuestión, por los medios establecidos en el presente convenio.

Artículo XII.

La Presidencia del Tribunal Arbitral se ejercerá alternativamente por períodos anuales por cada uno de sus miembros, siguiéndose el orden alfabético de los Estados que representen; correspondiendo el ejercerla el primer año, al Arbitro costarricense, el segundo al de El Salvador, y así sucesivamente. || Cuando por el caso previsto en el artículo IV, el miembro que ejerce la Presidencia del Tribunal estuviere inhibido de conocer, la Presidencia accidental para el caso en cuestión, será ejercida por el Arbitro que fuere hábil, según el orden de precedencia establecido en el

inciso anterior. || El Tribunal ejercerá sus funciones en la capital del Estado á que corresponde el Arbitro que debe presidirlo.

Artículo XIII.

El Tribunal arbitral dictará todas aquellas disposiciones de orden interior que considere necesarias para llenar cumplidamente la altísima misión que por este Tratado se le confiere.

Artículo XIV.

A fin de prevenir los abusos que pudieran comoterse en un Estado por emigrados políticos de otro contra la paz y tranquilidad públicas de éste, los Gobiernos contratantes se comprometen é retirar, de los lugares fronterizos, á aquellos emigrados, respecto de los cuales se hiciere la solicitud del caso por el Gobierno interesado.

Artículo XV.

Con el objeto de armonizar en lo posible las ideas y tendencias de los Gobiernos de los Estados signatarios, en todo cuanto se refiera á mantener y estrechar los vínculos de fraternidad centroamericana y la buena inteligencia entre aquéllos, y mientras que para tales fines no se establezcan Legaciones permanentes entre los Estados contratantes, se recomienda el nombramiento de Cónsules Generales de cada uno de ellos en los otros Estados, los cuales tendrán á la vez, el carácter de Agentes Confidenciales de sus respectivos Gobiernos.

Artículo XVI.

La presente Convención será sometida á la ratificación de los respectivos Congresos, á la mayor brevedad posible, y ratificada que sea por todos ellos, entrará en vigor treinta días después, sin necesidad del canje.

Artículo XVII.

Para la instalación del Tribunal Arbitral, establecido por este Convenio, se señala el día quince de Setiembre del año en curso, aniversario de la Independencia de Centro América.

Artículo XVIII.

En el deseo de que la presente Convención ligue á todos los Estados de la familia centroamericana, los Gobiernos signatarios invitarán conjuntamente, ó por separado, al Gobierno de la República de Guatemala, para que adhiera á sus estipulaciones, si fuere de su aprobación. || En fe

de lo cual, firmamos cuatro ejemplares, de igual tenor, en el puerto de Corinto, República de Nicaragua, á los veinte días del mes de Enero de mil novecientos dos.

(L. S.) Leonidas Pacheco.
(L. S.) Salvador Rodríguez.
(L. S.) César Bonilla.
(L. S.) Fernando Sánchez.

Nr. 12988. **DEUTSCHES REICH.** — Denkschrift über die Reklamationen Deutschlands gegen die Vereinigten Staaten von Venezuela. Dem Deutschen Reichstage vorgelegt.

Berlin, 8. Dezember 1902.

Seit längerer Zeit hat die Regierung der Vereinigten Staaten von Venezuela der Kaiserlichen Regierung durch die Behandlung der deutschen Reklamationen zu ernsten Beschwerden Anlaß gegeben. Es handelt sich einmal um Forderungen der in Venezuela lebenden Deutschen aus den letzten venezolanischen Bürgerkriegen, und ferner um Ansprüche deutscher Unternehmer wegen Nichterfüllung der von der Venezolanischen Regierung vertragsmäßig übernommenen Verbindlichkeiten. || Durch die in den Jahren 1898 bis 1900 und sodann seit Ende vorigen Jahres in Venezuela geführten Bürgerkriege sind dort zahlreiche deutsche Kaufleute und Grundbesitzer schwer geschädigt worden, indem teils Zwangsanleihen von ihnen erpreßt, teils die bei ihnen vorgefundenen Kriegsbedürfnisse, insbesondere das zur Verpflegung der Truppen erforderliche Vieh ohne Bezahlung weggenommen, teils ihre Häuser und Ländereien geplündert oder verwüstet worden sind. Der Betrag dieser Schäden aus den Bürgerkriegen von 1898 bis 1900 beziffert sich auf rund 1 700 000 Bolivares (Franken), während aus dem neuesten Bürgerkriege bereits Schäden von rund 3 000 000 Bolivares angemeldet worden sind. Einzelne der Geschädigten haben fast ihre ganze Habe verloren und dadurch auch ihre in Deutschland lebenden Gläubiger in Mitleidenschaft gezogen. || Die Venezolanische Regierung zeigt sich offenbar nicht gewillt, ihren Verpflichtungen zum Ersatze dieser Schäden nachzukommen. Zur Regelung der von ihr bisher allein behandelten Reklamationen aus den Jahren 1898 bis 1900 hat sie folgendes Verfahren eingeschlagen. Nachdem sie zunächst eine sechsmonatliche Frist festgesetzt hatte, in der sie jede Erörterung der Entschädigungsansprüche ablehnte, hat sie unterm 24. Januar 1901 ein Dekret erlassen, wonach eine lediglich aus venezolanischen Beamten bestehende Kommission, bei der die Geschädigten ihre Forderungen innerhalb drei

Monaten anzumelden hatten, über die Reklamationen entscheiden sollte. Die Bestimmungen dieses Dekrets erschienen in drei Punkten unannehmbar. Einmal sollten die aus der Zeit vor dem 23. Mai 1899, d. h. vor der Erhebung des gegenwärtigen Präsidenten der Republik Castro herrührenden Schadensersatzansprüche unberücksichtigt bleiben, während Venezuela selbstredend auch für die Handlungen seiner früheren Regierungen einzustehen hat. Sodann sollte gegen die Entscheidung der Kommission jeder diplomatische Einspruch ausgeschlossen, vielmehr nur die Berufung an den höchsten venezolanischen Gerichtshof zulässig sein, obwohl die richterlichen Beamten in Venezuela, wie einzelne Fälle gezeigt haben, von der Regierung tatsächlich abhängig und gelegentlich ohne weiteres aus ihrem Amte entfernt worden sind. Endlich sollten die von der Kommission als rechtmäßig anerkannten Reklamationen mit Scheinen einer neu zu schaffenden Revolutionsschuld bezahlt werden, die nach den bisherigen Erfahrungen nahezu wertlos sein würden. || In der Tat hat das auf Grund dieses Dekrets durchgeführte Verfahren zu einer irgendwie befriedigenden Erledigung der Reklamationen nicht geführt. Insbesondere sind die vereinzelten bei der Kommission angemeldeten deutschen Forderungen zum Teil ohne weiteres abgewiesen, zum Teil in offenbar willkürlicher Weise herabgesetzt worden; so ist einem deutschen Viehzüchter, dem rund 3800 Stück Rindvieh im Werte von über 600 000 Bolivares gewaltsam weggenommen waren, nur ein Betrag von 14 000 Bolivares zuerkannt worden. Überdies sind die von der Kommission anerkannten Forderungen nicht etwa bar bezahlt, sondern die Geschädigten auf eine dem Kongresse später zu unterbreitende Finanzvorlage verwiesen worden. Nachdem mehrfache Versuche des Kaiserlichen Minister-Residenten in Carácas, die Regierung der Republik zu einer Änderung ihres Dekrets in den angegebenen drei Punkten zu veranlassen, gescheitert waren, hat ihr der Minister-Resident bestimmt erklärt, daß die Kaiserliche Regierung sich nunmehr genötigt sehe, dem Dekret überhaupt ihre Anerkennung zu versagen. Ähnliche Erklärungen sind auch von England, den Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika, Italien, Spanien und den Niederlanden abgegeben worden. Die Venezolanische Regierung hat sich diesen Erklärungen gegenüber auf den Standpunkt gestellt, daß sie nicht in der Lage sei, die Fremden anders als ihre eigenen Staatsangehörigen zu behandeln, sowie daß sie die Erledigung von Reklamationen der in Rede stehenden Art als eine innere Angelegenheit ihres Landes betrachte, in die ohne Verletzung ihrer Souveränität von einer fremden Macht nicht eingegriffen werden könne. || Bei dieser Sachlage hat die Kaiserliche Regierung nicht umhin gekonnt, die deutschen Reklamationen selbst einer Prüfung zu

unterziehen und soweit sie danach begründet waren, unmittelbar bei der Regierung der Republik anhängig zu machen. Die Venezolanische Regierung hat darauf zwar in Aussicht gestellt, eine befriedigende Lösung der Angelegenheit durch ihren Kongreß herbeizuführen. Das von diesem in letztem Frühjahr angenommene Gesetz wiederholt indes nur die ungenügenden Bestimmungen des Dekrets vom 24. Januar 1901 und soll sich überdies nur auf solche Reklamationen erstrecken, die der durch das Dekret eingesetzten Kommission nicht rechtzeitig vorgelegt werden konnten. Jede weitere Erörterung der Angelegenheit hat die Regierung wiederholt mit der Begründung abgelehnt, daß in Venezuela mit Rücksicht auf die dortigen landesrechtlichen Vorschriften eine Regelung fremder Kriegsreklamationen auf dem diplomatischen Wege ausgeschlossen sei. Sie hat damit den Satz aufgestellt, daß eine diplomatische Verwendung durch die Landesgesetzgebung ausgeschlossen werden könne. Dieser Satz steht mit dem Völkerrechte nicht im Einklange, da die Frage, ob eine solche Verwendung zulässig ist, nicht nach landesrechtlichen Vorschriften, sondern nach den Grundsätzen des Völkerrechts beurteilt werden muß. || Den Schriftwechsel mit dem Kaiserlichen Vertreter in Carácas hat die Regierung der Republik zum Teil in einem nahezu beleidigenden Tone geführt und schließlich die in Rede stehenden Schriftstücke, darunter auch solche, die als vertraulich bezeichnet waren, ohne Befragung der Kaiserlichen Regierung und unter Hinzufügung einer in verletzender Form gehaltenen Denkschrift veröffentlicht. || In dem ganzen Verhalten der Venezolanischen Regierung kann hiernach nur das Bestreben erblickt werden, den fremden Reklamationen die ihnen völkerrechtlich gebührende Regelung zu versagen. Dazu kommt noch, daß in dem neusten venezolanischen Bürgerkriege die Deutschen in besonders feindseliger Weise behandelt worden sind; so haben sich beispielsweise die Gewalttätigkeiten der Regierungstruppen bei der Plünderung von Barquisimeto hauptsächlich gegen deutsche Häuser gerichtet. Dieses Vorgehen der venezolanischen Machthaber würde, falls es noch länger ungestraft bleibt, den Eindruck erwecken, als ob die Deutschen in Venezuela fremder Willkür schutzlos preisgegeben sind, und demnach geeignet sein, das Ansehen des Reiches in Mittel- und Süd-Amerika sowie die dort zu schützenden großen deutschen Interessen empfindlich zu schädigen. || So aufrichtig die Kaiserliche Regierung von dem Wunsche beseelt ist, mit der Republik Venezuela freundschaftliche Beziehungen zu erhalten, und soweit sie davon entfernt ist, der staatlichen Unabhängigkeit dieses Freistaates zu nahe zu treten oder in seine inneren Einrichtungen eingreifen zu wollen, so kann sie doch das Verhalten der Venezolanischen Regierung als ihrer

Würde zuwiderlaufend nicht länger dulden, und glaubt daher ihrerseits auf die Erledigung der deutschen Kriegsreklamationen in bestimmter Weise hinwirken zu müssen. Von weiteren Verhandlungen mit Venezuela verspricht sie sich nach den bisherigen Erfahrungen keinen Erfolg. Der Kaiserliche Geschäftsträger in Carácas hat daher gestern der Venezolanischen Regierung ein Ultimatum überreicht, worin er im Auftrage der Kaiserlichen Regierung die alsbaldige Zahlung der Kriegsreklamationen aus den Jahren 1898 bis 1900 sowie eine befriedigende Erklärung wegen Festsetzung und Sicherstellung der Reklamationen aus dem neusten Bürgerkriege verlangt. || Die vorstehend geschilderte Behandlung der deutschen Kriegsreklamationen hat die Kaiserliche Regierung ferner zu der Auffassung geführt, daß auch die deutschen Ansprüche wegen Nichterfüllung der von der Venezolanischen Regierung vertragsmäßig übernommenen Verbindlichkeiten ihres Schutzes bedürfen, um zu einer gerechten Erledigung zu gelangen. In dieser Beziehung kommen in Betracht die Reklamationen deutscher Firmen aus dem Bau eines Schlachthofes in Carácas sowie die Ansprüche der deutschen Großen Venezuela Eisenbahngesellschaft aus einer ihr zugesicherten Zinsgarantie. || Zur Ausführung einer Schlachthofsanlage in Carácas wurde im Jahre 1896 zwischen der Venezolanischen Regierung und dem Ingenieur Karl Henkel in Hamburg ein Vertrag abgeschlossen, in den später mit Genehmigung der Regierung noch die Aktiengesellschaft für Beton- und Monierbau in Berlin eingetreten ist. Die gesamte Anlage ist inzwischen fertiggestellt worden. Die Regierung hat indessen die für die Arbeiten versprochenen wöchentlichen Ratenzahlungen an die Aktiengesellschaft für Beton- und Monierbau seit Ende 1900 und an Henkel seit September 1901 eingestellt, so daß sie den beiden Unternehmern noch rund 820000 Bolivares schuldet. || In den Jahren 1888 bis 1894 ist von der deutschen Großen Venezuela Eisenbahngesellschaft die Eisenbahnlinie Carácas — Valencia gebaut worden. Bei Erteilung der Baukonzession hatte sich die Venezolanische Regierung zur Leistung einer Zinsgarantie von 7% auf ein Baukapital von rund 55 Millionen Bolivares verpflichtet. Diese Verflichtung, die vom 1. Februar 1894 an lief, wurde nicht erfüllt. Dagegen löste die Regierung im Jahre 1896 die Zinsgarantie durch Zahlung von 33 Millionen Bolivares in Titres einer von ihr in Höhe von 50 Millionen ausgegebenen 5 prozentigen Anleihe ab. Diese Anleihe wird seit dem Jahre 1898 nicht mehr regelmäßig verzinst und amortisiert, so daß die Ansprüche der Gesellschaft sich gegenwärtig auf rund 7½ Millionen Bolivares belaufen und überdies in fortwährendem Steigen begriffen sind. || Die wegen Regelung der vorstehenden Forderungen seit längerer Zeit schwebenden Verhandlungen

sind bisher erfolglos geblieben. Der Kaiserliche Geschäftsträger in Carácas hat daher in dem Ultimatum die Venezolanische Regierung ersucht, auch wegen Sicherstellung dieser Forderungen eine zufriedenstellende Erklärung abzugeben. || Sollte auf das Ultimatum nicht alsbald eine befriedigende Antwort erfolgen, so würde die Kaiserliche Regierung zu ihrem Bedauern genötigt sein, die Sorge für die Durchsetzung der deutschen Ansprüche selbst zu übernehmen. || Ähnliche Beschwerden wie in Deutschland haben übrigens auch andere Mächte, insbesondere England gegen die Venezolanische Regierung erhoben. Die britischen Reklamationen betreffen teils Ansprüche wegen rechtswidriger Wegnahme oder Zerstörung englischer Handelsschiffe, teils Forderungen englischer Eisenbahnen in Venezuela wegen Beschädigung der Bahnlinien und Nichterfüllung vertragsmäßiger Verbindlichkeiten, teils Ansprüche der Inhaber der englischen Anleihe von 1881, die ebenso wie die deutsche Anleihe von 1896 seit längerer Zeit nicht mehr regelmäßig verzinst und amortisiert wird. Bei dieser Sachlage sind Deutschland und England übereingekommen, gemeinsam für die Befriedigung ihrer sämtlichen Forderungen gegen Venezuela einzutreten. Der Britische Vertreter in Carácas hat gestern der Venezolanischen Regierung gleichfalls ein Ultimatum überreicht.

Nr. 12989. DEUTSCHES REICH. — Denkschrift über die Beilegung der Streitigkeiten zwischen Deutschland und den Vereinigten Staaten von Venezuela. Dem Deutschen Reichstage vorgelegt.

Berlin, 14. Februar 1903.

Nachdem die Regierung der Vereinigten Staaten von Venezuela die in den Ultimaten des deutschen und des britischen Vertreters in Carácas aufgestellten Forderungen abgelehnt hatte, ist zur Durchsetzung dieser Forderungen von den Seestreitkräften Deutschlands und Großbritanniens die Blockade über venezolanische Häfen verhängt worden. An dieser Blockade hat sich auch Italien beteiligt, das ähnliche Ansprüche gegen Venezuela erhoben hatte. || Auf Wunsch der Venezolanischen Regierung haben darauf zur Beilegung dieser Streitigkeiten in Washington Verhandlungen zwischen Vertretern der drei beteiligten Mächte und Venezuela stattgefunden, die gestern durch Zeichnung eines deutschen, eines englischen und eines italienischen Protokolls zum Abschlusse gelangt sind. || Nach dem in Abdruck angeschlossenen deutschen Protokolle hat die Venezolanische Regierung sämtliche von Deutschland erhobenen Forderungen als berechtigt anerkannt. Die nach dem Ultimatum in erster

Linie stehenden Reklamationen aus den venezolanischen Bürgerkriegen von 1898 bis 1900, die den Anlaß zu der Aktion gegen Venezuela gegeben haben, werden von der Venezolanischen Regierung sofort teils bar, teils in Wechseln mit kurzen Fristen bezahlt; für die Einlösung dieser Wechsel ist besondere Sicherheit geleistet. Die übrigen Reklamationen, die im einzelnen noch nicht geprüft waren, sollen einer gemischten Kommission zur Feststellung überwiesen werden; ein Mitglied der Kommission wird von der Kaiserlichen Regierung ernannt. Für die Bezahlung dieser Reklamationen sind gleichfalls entsprechende Sicherheiten bestellt, die Frage, inwieweit diese Sicherheiten ausschließlich Deutschland, Großbritannien und Italien oder auch anderen Mächten für ihre Ansprüche gegen Venezuela zu gute kommen, soll in Ermangelung anderweitiger Vereinbarung durch den ständigen Schiedshof im Haag entschieden werden. Endlich hat sich Venezuela verpflichtet, die zum größten Teile in deutschen Händen befindliche fünfprozentige venezolanische Anleihe von 1896 zugleich mit seiner gesamten auswärtigen Schuld in befriedigender Weise neu zu regeln und dadurch insbesondere auch den Ansprüchen der Deutschen Großen Venezuela-Eisenbahn-Gesellschaft gerecht zu werden. || Die in dem deutschen Ultimatum aufgestellten Forderungen sind hiernach erfülllt. In ähnlicher Weise sind auch die Forderungen Großbritanniens und Italiens erledigt worden. Die drei Mächte werden daher unverzüglich die von ihnen verhängte Blockade aufheben und die diplomatischen Beziehungen mit der Venezolanischen Regierung wiederherstellen.

Nr. 12990. DEUTSCHES REICH und VENEZUELA. — Protokoll.

Washington, 13. Februar 1903.

Von dem Kaiserlich Deutschen Gesandten Herrn Freiherrn Speck von Sternburg als Bevollmächtigten der Kaiserlich Deutschen Regierung || und dem Gesandten der Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika Herrn Bowen als Bevollmächtigten der Venezolanischen Regierung || ist zur Beilegung der zwischen Deutschland und Venezuela entstandenen Streitigkeiten nachstehendes Protokoll unterzeichnet worden.

Artikel 1.

Die Venezolanische Regierung erkennt im Prinzip die von der Kaiserlich Deutschen Regierung erhobenen Reklamationen deutscher Untertanen als berechtigt an.

Artikel 2.

Die deutschen Reklamationen aus den venezolanischen Bürgerkriegen von 1898 bis 1900 belaufen sich auf 1 718 815,67 Bolivares. Die Venezolanische Regierung verpflichtet sich, von diesem Betrage 5500 £ gleich 137 500 Bolivares sofort bar zu bezahlen und zur Tilgung des Restes fünf am 15. März, 15. April, 15. Mai, 15. Juni und 15. Juli 1903 an den Kaiserlich Deutschen Gesandten in Carácas zahlbare Wechsel über entsprechende Teilbeträge einzulösen, die Herr Bowen sofort ausstellen und Herrn Freiherrn Speck von Sternburg übergeben wird. || Sollte die Venezolanische Regierung diese Wechsel nicht einlösen, so soll die Zahlung aus den Zolleinkünften von La Guayra und Puerto Cabello erfolgen, und soll die Zollverwaltung in den beiden Häfen bis zur vollständigen Tilgung der erwähnten Schuld belgischen Zollbeamten übertragen werden.

Artikel 3.

Die in den Artikeln 2 und 6 nicht erwähnten deutschen Reklamationen, insbesondere die Reklamationen, welche aus dem gegenwärtigen venezolanischen Bürgerkriege herrühren, ferner die Ansprüche der Deutschen Großen Venezuela-Eisenbahn-Gesellschaft gegen die Venezolanische Regierung wegen Beförderung von Personen und Gütern, sowie die aus dem Baue eines Schlachthofs in Carácas entstandenen Forderungen des Ingenieurs Karl Henkel in Hamburg und der Aktiengesellschaft für Beton- und Monierbau in Berlin werden einer gemischten Kommission überwiesen. || Diese Kommission hat sowohl über die materielle Berechtigung der einzelnen Forderungen wie über deren Höhe zu entscheiden. Bei den Reklamationen wegen widerrechtlicher Beschädigung oder Wegnahme von Eigentum erkennt die Venezolanische Regierung ihre Haftpflicht im Prinzip an, dergestalt, daß die Kommission nicht über die Frage der Haftpflicht, sondern lediglich über die Widerrechtlichkeit der Beschädigung oder Wegnahme sowie über die Höhe der Entschädigung zu befinden hat.

Artikel 4.

Die im Artikel 3 erwähnte gemischte Kommission hat ihren Sitz in Carácas. Sie setzt sich zusammen aus je einem von der Kaiserlich Deutschen und der venezolanischen Regierung zu ernennenden Mitgliede. Die Ernennung hat bis zum 1. Mai 1903 zu erfolgen. Soweit sich die beiden Mitglieder über die erhobenen Ansprüche einigen, ist ihre Entscheidung als endgültig anzusehen; soweit eine Einigung unter ihnen nicht zustande kommt, ist zur Entscheidung ein Obmann zuzuziehen, der von dem Präsidenten der Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika ernannt wird.

Artikel 5.

Zur Befriedigung der im Artikel 3 bezeichneten Reklamationen sowie der gleichartigen Forderungen anderer Mächte wird die Venezolanische Regierung vom 1. März 1903 ab monatlich 30 Prozent der Zolleinkünfte von La Guayra und Puerto Cabello unter Ausschluß jeder anderen Verfügung dem Vertreter der englischen Bank in Carácas überweisen. Sollte die Venezolanische Regierung dieser Verpflichtung nicht nachkommen, so soll die Zollverwaltung in den beiden Häfen bis zur vollständigen Befriedigung der vorstehend erwähnten Forderungen belgischen Zollbeamten übertragen werden. || Alle Streitfragen in Ansehung der Verteilung der im Absatz 1 bezeichneten Zolleinkünfte sowie in Ansehung des Rechtes Deutschlands, Großbritanniens und Italiens auf gesonderte Befriedigung ihrer Reklamationen sollen in Ermangelung eines anderweitigen Abkommens durch den ständigen Schiedshof im Haag entschieden werden. An dem Schiedsverfahren können sich alle anderen interessierten Staaten den genannten drei Mächten gegenüber als Partei beteiligen.

Artikel 6.

Die Venezolanische Regierung verpflichtet sich, die zum größten Teile in deutschen Händen befindliche fünfprozentige venezolanische Anleihe von 1896 zugleich mit ihrer gesamten auswärtigen Schuld in befriedigender Weise neu zu regeln. Bei dieser Regelung sollen die für den Schuldendienst zu verwendenden Staatseinkünfte, unbeschadet der diesbezüglich bereits bestehenden Verpflichtungen, bestimmt werden.

Artikel 7.

Die von den deutschen Seestreitkräften weggenommenen venezolanischen Kriegs- und Handelsfahrzeuge werden in dem Zustand, in dem sie sich gegenwärtig befinden, der Venezolanischen Regierung zurückgegeben. Aus der Wegnahme dieser Schiffe wie aus deren Aufbewahrung können keine Entschädigungsansprüche hergeleitet werden. Auch wird ein Ersatz für Beschädigung oder Vernichtung der Schiffe nicht gewährt.

Artikel 8.

Nach Unterzeichnung dieses Protokolls soll die über die venezolanischen Häfen verhängte Blockade gemeinsam mit den Regierungen Großbritanniens und Italiens aufgehoben werden. Auch werden die diplomatischen Beziehungen zwischen der Kaiserlich Deutschen und der Venezolanischen Regierung wieder aufgenommen.

Freiherr Speck von Sternburg.
Herbert W. Bowen.

Nr. 12991. FRANKREICH und VENEZUELA. — Protocole entre la République française et les Etats-Unis du Venezuela pour le règlement de réclamations contre le Venezuela.

Washington, 27. Februar 1903.

Les soussignés, J.-J. Jusserand, ambassadeur de la République française à Washington, et Herbert-W. Bowen, plénipotentiaire de la république du Venezuela, dûment autorisés par leurs gouvernements respectifs, sont tombés d'accord sur les termes du protocole ci-après et y ont apposé leur signature.

Art. 1er. — Toutes les réclamations françaises contre la république du Venezuela, qui n'ont pas été réglées par arrangement diplomatique ou par arbitrage entre les deux gouvernements, seront présentées par le ministère français des affaires étrangères ou par la légation de France à Caracas à une commission mixte, siégeant à Caracas, qui examinera et réglera ces réclamations, et qui se composera de deux membres, l'un nommé par le Président de la République française et l'autre par le Président du Venezuela. || Il est convenu que la désignation d'un surarbitre sera demandée à S. M. la reine des Pays-Bas. Si l'un des deux commissaires ou le surarbitre venait à se trouver empêché de remplir ses fonctions ou les résignait, son successeur serait désigné immédiatement et de la même manière qu'il avait été nommé lui-même. Lesdits commissaires et le surarbitre devront être nommés avant le 1er mai 1903. || Les commissaires et le surarbitre se réuniront dans la ville de Caracas, le 1er juin 1903. Le surarbitre présidera leurs délibérations et aura compétence pour trancher toute question sur laquelle les commissaires se trouveront en désaccord. Avant d'entrer en fonctions, les commissaires et le surarbitre prêteront solennement serment d'examiner avec soin et de régler avec impartialité, suivant la justice et les stipulations de la présente convention, toutes les réclamations qui leur seront soumises, et la prestation de ces serments sera consignée dans les procès-verbaux de leurs travaux. Les commissaires, ou, dans le cas où ils se trouveraient en désaccord, le surarbitre, trancheront toutes les réclamations sur la base de l'équité absolue, sans égard pour les objections d'une nature technique, ni pour les dispositions de la législation locale. || Les décisions des commissaires et, dans le cas où ils n'arriveraient pas à une entente, celles du surarbitre, seront définitives et irrévocables. Elles seront formulées par écrit. Toutes les attributions d'indemnités seront payables en monnaie d'or de France ou son équivalent en argent.

Art. 2. — Les commissaires ou le surarbitre, selon les cas, examineront et régleront lesdites réclamations exclusivement d'après les preuves ou renseignements fournis par les gouvernements respectifs ou en leur nom. Ils seront tenus de recevoir et d'examiner tous documents ou déclarations écrits qui leur seront présentés par les gouvernements respectifs ou en leur nom, à l'appui de, ou en réponse à toute réclamation, et d'entendre ou lire toute démonstration orale ou écrite faite par l'agent de chaque gouvernement pour chaque réclamation. Au cas où ils ne s'entendraient pas sur telle ou telle réclamation le surarbitre décidera. || Chaque réclamation sera officiellement présentée aux commissaires dans un délai de trente jours à partir du jour de leur première réunion, à moins que les commissaires ou le surarbitre n'étendent, pour quelqu'une d'elles, le délai de présentation de la réclamation. Ce nouveau délai ne pourra dépasser trois mois. Les commissaires seront tenus d'examiner et de régler chaque réclamation dans un délai de six mois, à partir du jour de sa première présentation officielle, et, au cas où ils ne seraient pas d'accord, le surarbitre examinera et tranchera, dans un délai égal, à partir de la date du désaccord.

Art. 3. — Les commissaires et le surarbitre tiendront des procès-verbaux exacts de leurs travaux. A cet effet, les commissaires désigneront chacun un secrétaire versé dans la langue des deux pays et chargé de les assister dans les travaux de la commission. Les règles ci-indiquées mises à part, toutes les questions de procédure seront laissées à la décision de la commission ou, en cas de désaccord, à celle du surarbitre.

Art. 4. — Les commissaires et le surarbitre recevront, pour leurs services et dépenses, une compensation raisonnable qui sera, de même que les autres dépenses dudit arbitrage, payable par moitié par les parties contractantes.

Art. 5. — Afin de pouvoir payer le montant total des réclamations qui doivent être réglées comme il est dit plus haut et celui des autres réclamations de citoyens ou sujets d'autres nations, le gouvernement du Venezuela, à partir du 1er mars 1903, mettra de côté, à cet effet, par versement mensuels, et n'affectera à aucun autre objet, 30 p. 100 sur les revenus des douanes de la Guayra et Puerto-Cabello, et les sommes, ainsi mises à part, seront partagées et distribuées conformément à la décision du tribunal de la Haye. || Au cas où l'arrangement ci-dessus viendrait à n'être pas exécuté, des fonctionnaires belges seront chargés des douanes des deux ports et les administreront jusqu'à ce que le gouverne-

ment vénézuélien ait rempli les engagements résultant pour lui des réclamations susdites. || Le renvoi au tribunal de la Haye de la question susindiquée fera l'objet d'un protocole séparé.

Art. 6. — Toutes les attributions d'indemnités déjà réglées en faveur de la France, et non encore entièrement payées, seront promptement soldées, conformément aux termes de chaque décision.

Fait à Washington, en double exemplaire, en langue française et en langue anglaise, le 27 février 1903.

Signé: Jusserand,
Herbert W. Bowen.

Nr. 12992. **NIEDERLANDE und VENEZUELA.** — Protocol of an agreement between the Plenipotentiary of Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands and the Plenipotentiary of Venezuela for submission to arbitration and payment of all unsettled claims of the Government and subjects of the Netherlands against the Republic of Venezuela.

Washington, 28. Februar 1903.

Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands and the President of the Republic of Venezuela, having deemed it expedient to conclude the above mentioned protocol, have to that end appointed as their Plenipotentiaries: || Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands, Baron W. A. F. Gevers, and the President of Venezuela, Herbert W. Bowen, who, after having communicated to each other their respective Full Powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and signed the following protocol:

Article I.

All claims owned by the Government or citizens of the Netherlands against the Republic of Venezuela which have not been settled by diplomatic agreement or by arbitration between the two Governments, and which shall have been presented to the commission hereinafter named, by the Department for Foreign Affairs at the Hague or Her Majesty's legation at Caracas, shall be examined and decided by a mixed commission, which shall sit at Caracas, and which shall consist of two members, one of whom is to be appointed by Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands and the other by the President of Venezuela. || It is agreed that un umpire may be named by the President of the United States of

America. || If either of the said commissioners or the umpire should fail or cease to act, his successor shall be appointed forthwith in the same manner as his predecessor. Said commissioners and umpire are to be appointed before the first day of May 1903. || The commissioners and the umpire shall meet in the city of Caracas on the first day of June 1903. The umpire shall preside over their deliberations, and shall be competent to decide any question on which the commissioners disagree. Before assuming the functions of their office the commissioners and the umpire shall take solemn oath, or solemnly promise to examine and impartially decide, according to justice and the provisions of this Convention, all claims submitted to them, and such oaths or promises shall be entered on the record of their proceedings. The commissioners, or in case of their disagreement, the umpire, shall decide all claims upon a basis of absolute equity, without regard to objections of a technical nature, or of the provisions of local legislation. || The decisions of the commission, and in the event of their disagreement, those of the umpire, shall be final and conclusive. They shall be in writing. All awards shall be made payable in United States gold or its equivalent in silver.

Article II.

The commissioners or umpire, as the case may be, shall investigate and decide said claims upon such evidence or information only as shall be furnished by or on behalf of the respective Governments. They shall be bound to receive and consider all written documents or statements, which may be presented to them by or on behalf of the respective Governments in support of or in answer to any claim, and to hear oral or written arguments made by the Agent of each Government on every claim. In case of their failure to agree in opinion upon any individual claim, the umpire shall decide. || Every claim shall be formally presented to the commissioners within thirty days from the day of their first meeting, unless the commissioners or the umpire in any case extend the period for presenting the claim not exceeding three months longer. The commissioners shall be bound to examine and decide upon every claim within six months from the day of its first formal presentation, and in case of their disagreement, the umpire shall examine and decide within a corresponding period from the date of such disagreement.

Article III.

The commissioners and the umpire shall keep an accurate record of their proceedings. For that purpose, each commissioner shall appoint a secretary versed in the language of both countries, to assist them in the

transaction of the business of the commission. Except as herein stipulated, all questions of procedure shall be left to the determination of the commission, or in case of their disagreement to the umpire.

Article IV.

Reasonable compensation to the commissioners and to the umpire for their services and expenses, and the other expenses of said arbitration, are to be paid in equal moieties by the contracting parties.

Article V.

In order to pay the total amount of the claims to be adjudicated as aforesaid, and other claims of citizens or subjects of other nations, the Government of Venezuela shall set apart for this purpose, and alienate to no other purpose, beginning with the month of March 1903 thirty per cent., in monthly payments of the customs revenues of La Guaira and Puerto Cabello, and the payments thus set aside shall be divided and distributed in conformity with the decision of the Hague Tribunal. || In case of the failure to carry out the above agreement, Belgian officials shall be placed in charge of the customs of the two ports, and shall administer them until the liabilities of the Venezuelan Government in respect of the above claims shall have been discharged. The reference of the question above stated to the Hague Tribunal will be the subject of a separate protocol.

Article VI.

All existing and unsatisfied awards in favor of the Netherlands or Netherlands citizens shall be promptly paid, according to the terms of the respective awards.

(L. S.) (Gez.) Gevers
(„) („) Herbert W. Bowen.

Nr. 12993. GROSSBRITANNIEN und VENEZUELA. — Protokoll.

Washington, 13. Februar 1903.

Text No. 12 944. Der erste Satz von Artikel V lautet:

The Venezuelan Government being willing to provide a sum sufficient for the payment within a reasonable time of the claims specified in Article III and similar claims preferred by other Governments, undertake to assign to the British Government, commencing the 1st day of March, 1903, for this purpose, and to alienate to no other purpose, 30 per cent. in monthly payments of the Customs revenues of La Guaira and Puerto Cabello.

Nr. 12994. GROSSBRITANNIEN und VENEZUELA. — Agreement for the Reference of Certain Questions to the Permanent Court of Arbitration at the Hague.

Washington, 7. Mai 1903.

Whereas Protocols have been signed between Great Britain, Germany, Italy, United States of America, France, Spain, Belgium, the Netherlands, Sweden and Norway, and Mexico on the one hand, and Venezuela on the other hand, containing certain conditions agreed upon for the settlement of claims against the Venezuelan Government; || And whereas certain further questions arising out of the action taken by the Governments of Great Britain, Germany, and Italy, in connection with the settlement of their claims, have not proved to be susceptible of settlement by ordinary diplomatic methods; || And whereas the Powers interested are resolved to determine these questions by reference to arbitration, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes, signed at the Hague on the 29th July, 1899; || The Governments of Great Britain and Venezuela have, with a view to carry out that Resolution, authorized their Representatives, that is to say: || For Great Britain, his Excellency Sir Michael Henry Herbert, G.C.M.G., C.B., His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United States of America, and for Venezuela, Mr. Herbert W. Bowen, duly authorized thereto by the Government of Venezuela, to conclude the following Agreement:

Article I.

The question as to whether or not Great Britain, Germany, and Italy are entitled to preferential or separate treatment in the payment of their claims against Venezuela shall be submitted for final decision to the Tribunal at the Hague. || Venezuela having agreed to set aside 30 per cent. of the Customs revenues of La Guaira and Puerto Cabello for the payment of the claims of all nations against Venezuela, the Tribunal at the Hague shall decide how the said revenues shall be divided between the Blockading Powers on the one hand and the other Creditor Powers on the other hand, and its decision shall be final. || If preferential or separate treatment is not given to the Blockading Powers, the Tribunal shall decide how the said revenues shall be distributed among all the Creditor Powers; and the Parties hereto agree that the Tribunal in that case shall consider, in connection with the payment of the claims out of the 30 per cent., any preference or pledges of revenue enjoyed by any of the Creditor Powers, and shall accordingly decide the question of

distribution so that no Power shall obtain preferential treatment, and its decision shall be final.

Article II.

The facts on which shall depend the decision of the questions stated in Article I shall be ascertained in such manner as the Tribunal may determine.

Article III.

The Emperor of Russia shall be invited to name and appoint from the members of the Permanent Court of the Hague three Arbitrators to constitute the Tribunal which is to determine and settle the questions submitted to it under and by virtue of this Agreement. None of the Arbitrators so appointed shall be a subject or citizen of any of the Signatory or Creditor Powers. || This Tribunal shall meet on the first day of September, 1903, and shall render its decision within six months thereafter.

Article IV.

The proceedings shall be carried on in the English language, but arguments may, with the permission of the Tribunal, be made in any other language also. || Except as herein otherwise stipulated, the procedure shall be regulated by the Convention of the Hague of July 29, 1899.

Article V.

The Tribunal shall, subject to the general provision laid down in Article 57 of the International Convention of July 29, 1899, also decide how, when, and by whom the costs of this Arbitration shall be paid.

Article VI.

Any nation having claims against Venezuela may join as a party in the Arbitration provided for by this Agreement.

(L. S.) (Signed) Michael H. Herbert.
(L. S.) (Signed) Herbert W. Bowen.

Nr. 12995. **GROSSBRITANNIEN und VENEZUELA.** Agreement for the decision of the Claims by a Mixed Commission.

Washington, 7. Mai 1903.

Whereas, by a Protocol signed on the 13th February, 1903, by his Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Michael Henry Herbert, G.C.M.G., C.B., His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United States of America, and Mr. Herbert W. Bowen, duly authorized thereto by the Government of Venezuela, it was agreed that

certain claims by British subjects, including those preferred by the Railway Companies, against the Government of Venezuela should, unless otherwise satisfied, be referred, under the conditions specified in the Protocol, to a Mixed Commission, to consist of one British and one Venezuelan member, and that in each case where the Commissioners came to an agreement their decision should be final; and that, in cases of disagreement, the claims should be referred to the decision of an Umpire nominated by the President of the United States of America: || Now the Undersigned, his Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Michael Henry Herbert, G.C.M.G., C.B., His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United States of America, and Mr. Herbert W. Bowen, duly authorized thereto by the Government of Venezuela, have further agreed as follows: — || One member of the Commission shall be appointed by His Britannic Majesty's Government and the other by the Government of Venezuela, and the Umpire shall be nominated by the President of the United States of America. || If either of the said Commissioners or the Umpire should fail or cease to act, his successor shall be appointed forthwith in the same manner as his predecessor. The said Commissioners and Umpire are to be appointed as soon as possible. || The Commissioners and the Umpire shall meet at Carácas on the first day of June, 1903. || Before assuming the functions of their office, the Commissioners, and the Umpire, if necessary, shall make solemn oath or declaration carefully to examine and impartially to decide according to justice and the provisions of the Protocol of the 13th February, 1903, and of the present Agreement, all claims submitted to them, and the oath or declaration so made shall be embodied in the record of their proceedings. The Commissioners, or, in case of their disagreement, the Umpire, shall decide all claims upon a basis of absolute equity, without regard to objections of a technical nature, or of the provisions of local legislation. || The decisions of the Commission, and, in the event of their disagreement, those of the Umpire, shall be final and conclusive. They shall be given in writing. All Awards shall be made payable in sterling money of Great Britain or its equivalent in silver at the current rate of exchange of the day. || The Commissioners, or Umpire, as the case may be, shall investigate and decide the said claims upon such evidence or information only as shall be furnished by or on behalf of the Governments of Great Britain and Venezuela respectively. They shall be bound to receive and consider all written documents or statements which may be presented to them by or on behalf of the Governments respectively in support of or in answer to any claim, and

to hear oral or written arguments submitted by the Agent of each Government on every claim. In case of their failure to agree in opinion upon any individual claim, the Umpire shall decide. || Every claim shall be formally presented to the Commissioners within thirty days from the day of their first meeting, unless the Commissioners or the Umpire in any case extend the time for presenting the claim for a further period not exceeding three months. The Commissioners shall be bound to examine and decide upon every claim within six months from the day of its first formal presentation; and, in case of their disagreement, the Umpire shall examine and decide within a corresponding period from the date of such disagreement. || The Commissioners and the Umpire shall keep an accurate record of their proceedings. For that purpose each Commissioner shall appoint a Secretary versed in the language of both countries to assist him in the transaction of the business of the Commission. || In the proceedings, either the English or Spanish language may be used. Except as herein stipulated, all questions of procedure shall be left to the determination of the Commissioners, or, in case of their disagreement, to the Umpire. || Reasonable remuneration to the Commissioners and to the Umpire for their services and expenses, and the other expenses of the said Arbitration, are to be paid in equal moieties by the Powers parties to this Agreement.

(L. S.) (Signed) Michael H. Herbert.
(L. S.) (Signed) Herbert W. Bowen.

Nr. 12996. DEUTSCHES REICH und VENEZUELA. — Abkommen über die zur Feststellung der deutschen Reklamationen berufene gemischte Kommission.

Washington, 7. Mai 1903.

Von dem Kaiserlich deutschen Gesandten Herrn Freiherrn Speck von Sternburg als Bevollmächtigtem der Kaiserlich deutschen Regierung || und dem Gesandten der Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika Herrn Herbert W. Bowen als Bevollmächtigtem der venezolanischen Regierung || ist zur Ausführung der Artikel 3 und 4 des deutsch-venezolanischen Protokolls vom 13. Februar 1903 nachstehendes Abkommen über die zur Feststellung der deutschen Reklamationen berufene gemischte Kommission unterzeichnet worden.

Artikel 1.

Die von der Kaiserlich deutschen und der venezolanischen Regierung zu ernennenden Mitglieder der gemischten Kommission treten am 1. Juni 1903 in Carácas zusammen. Der von dem Präsidenten der Vereinigten

Staaten von Amerika zu ernennende Obmann tritt so bald als möglich, spätestens aber am 1. Juni 1903 in die Kommission ein. || Der Obmann ist zu den Verhandlungen und Entscheidungen zuzuziehen, sobald das deutsche und das venezolanische Mitglied sich über eine Frage nicht einigen können oder es sonst für angezeigt erachten. Bei Zuziehung des Obmanns führt dieser den Vorsitz. || Wenn nach dem Zusammentritt der Kommission der Obmann oder eines der beiden anderen Mitglieder in Wegfall kommt, so soll dessen Nachfolger sofort in derselben Weise wie das weggefallene Mitglied ernannt werden. || Das deutsche und das venezolanische Mitglied haben zu ihrer Unterstützung bei den Kommissionsarbeiten je einen der deutschen und der spanischen Sprache mächtigen Sekretär zu ernennen.

Artikel 2.

Vor Beginn ihrer Tätigkeit sollen der Obmann und die beiden anderen Mitglieder in feierlicher Weise einen Eid oder eine eidesstattliche Versicherung dahin ableisten, daß sie die ihnen unterbreiteten Reklamationen sorgsam prüfen und unparteiisch nach den Grundsätzen der Gerechtigkeit sowie nach den Bestimmungen des Protokolls vom 13. Februar 1903 und des vorliegenden Abkommens entscheiden werden. Die Ableistung des Eides oder der eidesstattlichen Versicherung ist durch die Protokolle der Kommission festzustellen. || Die Entscheidungen der Kommission über die Reklamationen sollen auf der Grundlage vollkommener Billigkeit sowie ohne Rücksicht auf Einwendungen technischer Art oder auf die Bestimmungen der Landesgesetzgebung erfolgen. Sie sind schriftlich in deutscher und spanischer Sprache abzufassen. Die zuerkannten Entschädigungsbeträge müssen angegeben werden als zahlbar in deutschem Golde oder dem Gegenwert in Silber, wie sich solcher zur Zeit der effektiven Zahlungen in Carácas stellen wird.

Artikel 3.

Die Reklamationen sind bei der Kommission von dem Kaiserlich deutschen Gesandten in Carácas bis zum 1. Juli 1903 anzumelden. Diese Frist kann von der Kommission in geeigneten Fällen angemessen verlängert werden. Die Kommission hat über die einzelnen Reklamationen binnen sechs Monaten nach deren Anmeldung und sofern das deutsche und das venezolanische Mitglied sich nicht einigen, binnen sechs Monaten nach Zuziehung des Obmanns zu entscheiden. || Die Kommission ist verpflichtet, vor der Entscheidung das ihr von dem Kaiserlich deutschen Gesandten in Carácas und der venezolanischen Regierung vorgelegte Beweismaterial sowie mündliche oder schriftliche Ausführungen etwaiger

Bevollmächtigten des Gesandten oder der Regierung entgegenzunehmen und einer sorgfältigen Prüfung zu unterziehen. || Über die Verhandlungen der Kommission haben die in Artikel 1, Absatz 4 bezeichneten Sekretäre genaue Protokolle in zwei gleichlautenden Ausfertigungen zu führen, die von ihnen und von den an der Verhandlung beteiligten Mitgliedern der Kommission zu unterzeichnen sind. Nach Beendigung der Kommissionsarbeiten ist je eine Ausfertigung dieser Protokolle der Kaiserlich deutschen und der venezolanischen Regierung zur Verfügung zu stellen.

Artikel 4.

Soweit nicht die vorstehenden Artikel besondere Bestimmungen enthalten, kann die Kommission selbst das Verfahren in der ihr geeignet scheinenden Weise regeln. Insbesondere ist sie befugt, selbst die Erklärungen der Reklamanten oder ihrer etwaigen Bevollmächtigten entgegenzunehmen und die erforderlichen Beweise zu erheben.

Artikel 5.

Der Obmann bezieht für seine Mühewaltung und Auslagen eine angemessene Entschädigung, die ebenso wie etwaige gemeinsame Kosten der Kommission von der Kaiserlich deutschen und der venezolanischen Regierung zu gleichem Anteile getragen wird. || Die Entschädigungen, die den beiden anderen Mitgliedern und den Sekretären der Kommission zu gewähren sind, werden von der Regierung getragen, von deren Seite diese Personen bestellt sind. Ebenso trägt jede Regierung die ihr sonst etwa erwachsenden eigenen Kosten.

Freiherr Speck von Sternburg.
Herbert W. Bowen.

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